

TERRORISM WORLDWIDE

2018



EDWARD MICKOLUS

Terrorism
Worldwide, 2018

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>Introduction</i>	1
2018 Incidents	
Worldwide	9
Africa	10
Asia	27
Australia/New Zealand	46
Europe	48
Latin America	80
Middle East	86
North America	132
<i>Appendix: Updates of Pre–2018 Incidents</i>	149
<i>Bibliography</i>	173
<i>Index to Countries and Places</i>	175
<i>Index of Terrorist and Other Groups and Organizations</i>	177

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INTRODUCTION

This book uses the same definition of terrorism as found in its predecessors, allowing comparability across decades. Terrorism is the use or threat of use of violence by any individual or group for political purposes. The perpetrators may be functioning for or in opposition to established governmental authority. A key component of international terrorism is that its ramifications transcend national boundaries, and, in so doing, create an extended atmosphere of fear and anxiety. The effects of terrorism reach national and worldwide cultures as well as the lives of the people directly hurt by the terrorist acts. Violence becomes terrorism when the intention is to influence the attitudes and behavior of a target group beyond the immediate victims. Violence becomes terrorism when its location, the victims, or the mechanics of its resolution result in consequences and implications beyond the act or threat itself.

The book is divided into a region-by-region (and within each, a country-by-country) look at terrorist incidents, followed by an Appendix updating events that occurred before 2018. Reports of incidents are based solely on publicly available sources. This section is not intended to be analytical, but rather comprehensive in scope. As such, the section also includes descriptions of non-international attacks that provide the security and political context in which international attacks take place. In some cases, the international terrorists mimic the tactics of their stay-at-home cohorts. Often, these are the same terrorists working on their home soil against domestic, rather than foreign, targets. Domestic attacks often serve as proving grounds for techniques later adopted for international use. I have therefore included material on major technological, philosophical, or security advances, such as the use of letter bombs; food tampering; major assassinations; attempts to develop, acquire, smuggle, or use precursors for an actual chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear weapon; key domestic and international legislation and new security procedures; key arrests

and trials of major figures; and incidents involving mass casualties.

The Appendix provides follow-ups to incidents first reported before January 1, 2018. For example, updates include information about the outcome of trials for terrorist acts occurring before 2018 and “where are they now” information about terrorists and their victims. The update is identified by the original incident date, and I have included enough prefatory material to give some context and to identify the original incident in the earlier volumes.

International terrorist incidents and airline hijackings are identified by an eight-digit code. The first six digits identify the date on which the incident became known as a terrorist attack to someone other than the terrorists themselves (e.g., the date the letter bomb finally arrived at the recipient’s office, even though terrorists had mailed it weeks earlier; or the date on which investigators determined that an anomalous situation was terrorist in nature). The final two digits ratchet the number of attacks that took place on that date. In instances in which either the day of the month or the month itself is unknown, “99” is used in that field. Non-international entries do not receive an eight-digit code.

The information cutoff date for this volume is December 31, 2018.

The Bibliography includes references drawn from the same public sources that provide the incidents, literature searches, and contributions sent by readers of previous volumes. It does not purport to be comprehensive. The citations are grouped into topic areas that were chosen to make the bibliography more accessible.

Activities of Key Terrorist Groups

Overall numbers of terrorist attacks continued to decrease, a finding reported by the University of Maryland’s Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START) program, as well as by our ITERATE statistics. Media coverage did not wane, but

the sheer numbers of attacks declined. As most terrorist attacks occur in the Middle East, especially in the area of the ISIS conflict, the decline is understandable as ISIS territory shrinks.

Although international terrorism is not only the work of the Islamic State (IS), a noteworthy amount of attacks in 2018 can be attributed to IS, its affiliates, and those inspired by its call to violence. Because of its international spread and radically decentralized method of operations-by-inspiration, few days go by without an attack by someone declaring fealty to, if not membership in, some form of IS. Western nations continued to foil plots, and numerous would-be attackers were arrested, jailed, tried, and sentenced.

Key developments for IS included:

- Continuation of its transformation from a quasi-government (at one point, it boasted 100,000 fighters, among them 30,000 foreign fighters, according to the *Washington Post*, and made \$800 million annually and controlled an area the size of the United Kingdom, now down to 1 percent of that area, and ruled over territory in which 7.7 million people lived) to a more traditional terrorist network. The *New York Times* reported that ISIS territory had been whittled down from 40,000 to 1,000 square miles, roughly twice the size of Los Angeles.

- Despite ISIS's geographic shrinkage, reports issued by the United States Defense Department's Lead Inspector General and the United Nations Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team suggested that ISIS boasts 30,000 adherents in Syria and Iraq, with numerous others having returned to their home countries, awaiting development of plans for attacks on their turf. At one time, ISIS's order of battle included fighters from 110 countries.

- Losses in its original strongholds in Iraq and Syria led some ISIS adherents to establish a presence in Libya, now a principal focal point for continuation of the brand. Its branch in neighboring Egypt also was active and its affiliate in Afghanistan battled the Taliban for primacy as the key anti-government jihadi force.

- The transformation to insurgent status included conducting attacks in Iraq and Syria, particularly in Kirkuk, Diyala and Salahuddin in Iraq, areas in which the coalition had claimed that the group had been defeated.

- The ISIS main propaganda organs, including its *Amaq* news service, apparently remained intact and continued pumping materials to its subscribers.

- ISIS caliph Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi issued a rare audiotape in August, praising ISIS members and calling for lone wolves to continue their tac-

tics, be they shootings, bombings, or vehicular murders.

- Those simple vehicular attacks and stabbings in major world cities kept the ISIS brand alive amongst wannabe jihadis and kept civilians and governments on edge. Vehicular attacks included one during rush hour outside the security barriers of the Houses of Parliament. Knifings remained common and difficult to prevent.

- ISIS has experimented with expanding its computer repertoire beyond its extensive electronic social media campaigns to include encrypting communications and laundering money through Bitcoin cryptocurrency, according to the *New York Times*.

ISIS's difficulties might be exploited by remnants of the original al-Qaeda, from which ISIS was spawned. While titular al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri issued occasional statements to the faithful, Osama bin Laden's son, Hamza, began efforts to supplant the aging and increasingly marginalized al-Zawahiri as the center of al-Qaeda. This has not—yet—led to operations in the name of al-Qaeda Senior Leadership, although its affiliates in the Maghreb and Yemen continued to conduct and claim attacks.

President Trump's surprise announcement in December of a pullout of U.S. troops from Syria and a drawdown of the American presence in Afghanistan may provide unexpected breathing room for ISIS and the Taliban in 2019.

Fates of Key Terrorists

Two major figures from the 1980s and 1990s eras of terrorism received long-overdue justice during the year.

In July, Japan executed two tranches of 13 Aum Shin Rykyo adherents, including its leader, Shoko Asahara, true name Chizuo Matsumoto. In its heyday, Aum set records even ISIS was hard-pressed to rival decades later in terms of membership (in the tens of thousands), complexity of its organization (they had cabinet members), multinational reach, viciousness of its methods, financial wherewithal, callousness of its random selection of victims, extremism of its religious call, and grandeur of its ghastly vision for the world. To date, these are the only two terrorist groups, both of which were religion-based, to have such large membership rolls.

Still in the headlines after his arrest in 1992, Abimael Guzman, leader of Peru's Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path), was sentenced to a second life sentence in September for masterminding a 1992 car bombing in Lima that killed 25 and injured 155.

From an even earlier era, Ilich Ramirez Sanchez, alias Carlos the Jackal, lost his appeal in March re-

garding a 1974 grenade attack on the Paris shopping arcade Drugstore Publicis that killed two and injured 34. He was convicted in Paris in 2017 and sentenced to life. He was already serving two life sentences for murders and attacks in the 1970s and 1980s.

While these three cases do not address depredations of the newest generation of terrorists, they do accord governments the opportunity to underscore that governments will pursue justice for victims, and not merely chase the perpetrators of the latest headline. The cases perhaps can also serve to give closure to victims, families of victims, and those who pursued the cases in the field and the courtroom for so long. A final note to the year that underscored this theme was the demise of Walter Arizala, alias Guacho, leader of a FARC splinter that conducted kidnappings and was involved in drug trafficking.

In *Terrorism, 2013–2015*, I suggested that terrorism-hunters concentrate on several key terrorists who remained at large, including

- **Ibrahim Hassan al-Asiri**, AQAP's chief bomb maker.
- **Samantha Louise Lewthwaite**, believed to be an al-Shabaab strategist.
- **Abubakar Shekau**, Boko Haram leader. His control over the organization ebbed, with a rival claiming suzerainty over the group.
- **Ayman Mohammed Rabie al-Zawahiri**. The al-Qaeda leader continued to be sidelined, reduced to issuing videos with limited production values of minimal interest to the next generation of jihadis.
- **Returning jihadis** from ISIS territory. Hundreds of terrorism tourists proved a difficult task for surveillance teams.
- **Lone wolves**. Many popped up throughout the rest of the world. Security forces stopped many, but not all, before they could attack.

After a years-long hunt, al-Asiri was apparently killed in a 2017 drone strike in Yemen's Marib Province. He was often viewed as an innovator in bomb techniques, as well as recruiting suicide bombers, even his own brother.

The others apparently survived. Shekau is often reported dead, but then pops up in videos. Lewthwaite has not been seen in years. Terrorists generally do not retire peacefully, usually either dying on the battlefield or in prison.

We should add the name of ISIS caliph Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi to our list of key hunted terrorists. Although rarely seen or heard—only two audios popped up within a year—he remains a central source of inspiration for like-minded lone wolves and his removal from the battlefield would be at least a symbolic victory. Early reports of his death

have proven incorrect, however, and he continues to succeed in hiding from justice.

The following did not get past the year:

Senior Terrorists Killed in 2018

This list includes those killed by coalition and Russian forces, including by airstrikes, and by rival terrorist groups, plus those who died of natural causes.

AQAP (Al-Qaeda)

- Ibrahim al-Asiri, chief bomb maker
- Ghalib al-Zaida, AQAP Marib Province commander since 2015

AQIM (Al-Qaeda)

- Musa Abu Dawud, commander of AQIM's southern zone

AQIS (Al-Qaeda)

- Hazrat Abbas, a senior commander for AQIS and for the Pakistani Taliban (TTP)

Ansar Beit al-Maqdis (Egypt's IS affiliate)

- Abu Jaafar al-Maqdesi, commander in the Sinai Peninsula
- Abu Hamza al-Maqdisi, a leader in the Egyptian Sinai
- Naser Abou Zaquoul, commander in the Sinai Peninsula

Afghan Taliban

- Mullah Abdul Manan Akhand, shadow governor in Kandahar, Zabul, Nimroz and Helmand Provinces
- Qari Esanullah, shadow district chief for Tagab
- Mullah Nasim Mushfaq, Taliban shadow governor for Kapisa

ISIS

- Mahad Moalim, deputy leader of an ISIS-linked group based in northern Somalia
- Abu al-Umarayn, who was involved in the murder of American hostage Peter Kassig

Islamic State in the Greater Sahara

- Mohamed Ag Almouner

ISIS-Khorasan Province

- Qari Hikmatullah, a former leader of the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan

- Abu Sayeed Orakzai, alias Abu Saad Erhabi, leader of the group

Islamic State in Yemen

- Saleh Naser Fadl al-Bakhshi

Houthis in Yemen

- Saleh al-Samad, deputy chief, Supreme Political Council chief and acting head of state

Pakistani Taliban

- Khalid Mehsud, alias Khan Saeed Mehsud, alias Commander Khan Saeed Sajna, the group's deputy chief
- Abdullah, the son of TTP leader Mullah Fazlullah
- Mullah Fazlullah, head of TTP
- Gul Muhammad, a senior TTP commander

Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC)

- Walter Arizala, alias Guacho

Indian Naxalite Maoist Rebels

- Haribhushan, secretary of the outlawed Communist Party of India (Maoist)

Hizbul Mujahdeen, Kashmir's largest rebel group

- Manan Wani, a senior intellectual

Other Terrorists Killed in 2018

Haqqani Network

- Ahsanullah, a commander in Pakistan
- Nasir Mehsud

ISIS

- Denis Cuspert, alias Deso Dogg, alias Abu Talha al-Almani (the German), a Ghanaian-German rapper who appeared in numerous ISIS propaganda videos

ISIS-K

- Syed Omar, a local commander in Nangarhar Province's Achin district
- Sediq Yar, a local commander in Nangarhar Province's Achin district

Lashkar-e-Jhangvi

- Salman Badeni, a provincial commander

Pakistani Taliban

- Hakim Khan, a local commander in the Daraban area of Dera Ismail Khan

Key Terrorists Captured/ Surrendered in 2018

ISIS

- Adrien Guihal, alias Adrien Lionel Kiyali, alias Abu Osama al-Faransi, a French ISIS spokesman
- Ismail al-Ithawi, alias Abu Zaid al-Iraqi, a top aide to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi
- Saddam al-Jamal, head of ISIS territory in Syria's Deir al-Zour Province
- Alexandra Amon Kotey and El Shafee Elsheikh, two of the four English-accented "Beatles" kidnappers/jailers/torturers of foreign hostages

Finally, Haqqani founder Jalaluddin Haqqani, 71, died after a long illness. He was one of the rare insurgents/terrorists to die peacefully of natural causes. He was paralyzed for ten years, serving as a figurehead, while son Sirajuddin Haqqani, also deputy chief of the Taliban, ran the group. His passing was not expected to have much effect on the group's operations.

The death of Pakistani Taliban leader Mullah Fazlullah likely had deleterious effects on the ability of the group to conduct operations, although terrorist leaders are often quickly replaced. Decapitation attempts, even if unsuccessful, are useful, however, in keeping the leadership looking over its shoulders, diverting their attention from offensive operations.

Regional Developments

Africa experienced an international rarity: two assassination attempts against heads of state on the same day in Ethiopia and Zimbabwe. One, Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, was a reformer; the other, Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa, was a logical successor to the previous administration of Robert Mugabe. ISIS operations continued in the Sahel region and Boko Haram's affiliation with ISIS highlighted its presence in the region.

Nigerian declarations of Boko Haram's demise were often found to be premature. The group conducted mass kidnapping attacks against children, kept as hostages hundreds of people, particularly schoolgirls, kidnapped years earlier, and attacks villages seemingly at whim. Their operations spread into neighboring countries as well. The split into

two factions, one aligned with ISIS, one with al-Qaeda, made infiltrating and neutralizing the group all the more difficult. They also began using drones for surveillance.

The *Associated Press* reported that al-Shabaab, a Somali-based jihadi group, extended operations to Tanzania and Mozambique, setting up training facilities and hideouts. Meanwhile, the U.S., along with new governments, including Ethiopia and Kenya, conducted airstrikes against the group, which may continue to strike back.

Jihadism was not the only source of terrorism in Africa, with ongoing English-speaking “Ambazonia” separatism in Cameroon garnering numerous headlines, as did Allied Democratic Forces attacks in central Africa, particularly the Congo, by regionally based separatist rebels. Cameroonian Anglophone separatists even issued their own virtual currency, the AmbaCoin.

In Asia, Indonesia and Philippines led the way in ISIS expansion, with a major battle of several weeks in the Philippines sapping the overall strength of the Asian jihadis. Suicide bombers hit three churches in Indonesia’s second largest city, Surabaya, according to the *Cipher Brief*.

In Latin America, the transition of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia to a more traditional political party continued in fits and starts, with the group forwarding candidates for president and more junior officers while die-hard splinter factions and the group’s rivals in the National Liberation Army conducted simple attacks.

A seemingly unending series of arrests in Europe of jihadis did not dent lone wolves’ will to conduct attacks, however simple, throughout the continent. Vehicular attacks, knifings, and shootings garnered the most media attention for these ISIS wannabes. The year was capped by a mid-December mass shooting in Strasbourg, France, by a jihadi who had more than two dozen criminal convictions dating from age 13. December’s unattributed (as of this writing) drone flyover of Gatwick Airport’s runway area showed how cheaply a malign actor can disrupt the lives of hundreds of thousands of people during major holidays. A tertiary effect of Brexit will be to make it harder for the UK to tap into European Union terrorism databases, further threatening Europe-wide security in 2019.

The Middle East and South Asia continued to be a focal point for terrorist operations. Shrinking of ISIS territory to less than 1 percent of the caliphate’s original holdings and battlefield losses in Syria and Iraq did not stop ongoing low-level and opportunistic attacks on civilians and troops. The Taliban and ISIS-K conducted near-daily attacks in Afghanistan, with the Taliban focusing on government and coalition forces while ISIS-K went after any targets of opportunity, government or civilian, Muslim or

non-Muslim. The Pakistani Taliban did some shuffling of its senior staff after the deaths of key leaders but were not deterred from attacks. India faced a blizzard of attacks by Maoist Naxalites and on a second front by Kashmiri insurgents, bolstered by local support that took the form of violent demonstrations protesting raids on rebel hideouts. Casualties in Kashmir in 2018 set records, and some observers suggested that 2019 would be worse. An ISIS affiliate in Egypt maintained a terrorist campaign in the Sinai, particularly around el-Arish. Libya’s failed state left its territory open to a welter of militia groups, some with terrorist appendages. Simple attacks—principally knifings and vehicular attacks—plagued Israel and Israeli-occupied territories.

In the United States, and to some extent North America in general, Islamic radicals continued to follow the siren call of ISIS propaganda on the Internet and physical battlefields around the world.

Some argued that a second source of radicalization, this time of alt-right adherents, xenophobes, white supremacists, neo-Nazis, and others could be attributed to the climate of coarseness contributed to by the incessant barrage of at-best insensitive tweets and at-worst calculated off-the-cuff comments by President Trump. The FBI reported a rise in hate crimes of 17 percent between 2016 and 2017, with 7,175 hate crimes logged in 2017. Three out of five targets race/ethnicity. Some observers said it was a fine line between hate crimes and terrorist attacks.

Similar weaponization of right-wing radicalization leading to violence against perceived enemies, real or imagined, was attributed to the climate of distrust spun up by Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte and other right-wing leaders around the world. A spate of mass casualty attacks by individuals, some mentally ill, some aware of the consequences of their actions, motivated by racist and anti-Semitic sentiments, were often attributed, with varying degrees of social scientific rigor, to the ill-considered callous musings of such leaders as lighting rods.

Innovations in Terrorist Methods

Terrorists—and those who employ their methods—continued to develop new techniques. One of the most potentially lethal—albeit low-cost in terms of personnel and money—was the resort to unmanned aerial vehicles, often called drones, to deliver explosives on a specific target. The method has been used for years by government military organizations against terrorist groups, although the sophistication and reliability of the terrorists’ drones were not up to the same standards. An apparent assassination attempt against Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro in August employed two

high-end \$5,000 DJI Matrice 600 drones. One was shot down, one crashed, but not before scattering hundreds of troops attending his address to the nation. It was the first known attempt to kill a head of state with a drone. DJI sells a quadcopter for \$1,200 that might be in the price range of more groups interested in developing an air force for target surveillance or grenade delivery. French and Dutch police have trained eagles to take out drones; the market for anti-drone technologies and techniques is likely to proliferate with the growth of the nonmilitary drone market.

Israeli authorities faced even simpler aerial methods—burning kites—which Hamas deployed to destroy crops. Iron Dome missiles are able to take out Hamas rockets, but kites will probably continue to avoid such large flyswatters.

Simple attacks stayed in the terrorists' repertoire. Stabbings were reported in Australia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Brazil, France, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, the Netherlands, South Africa, Tajikistan, and the United States. Vehicular attacks not involving explosives occurred in Canada, China and Israel.

ISIS financing methods continued to be cutting-edge for terrorist groups. This year, the *New York Times* reported that the group had begun using Bitcoins, which are designed to be impossible to trace. Despite the benefits of their stealth, the volatility of such cryptocurrencies makes them a risky investment, with daily convertibility swings of 50 percent common.

What's Next?

Continuing Mysteries

With a handful of exceptions, terrorists have not engaged in chemical, biological, nuclear, radiological, or cyber (as far as we can attribute) attacks, mubtakkar use, higher-altitude sniping, or multiple-shooter attacks in malls, restaurants, and other places where numerous individuals gather.

Why not? Some observers have suggested that the higher-technology methods are simply beyond the ability of most terrorist groups, although some—West European leftists, al-Qaeda, ISIS, Aum Shin Rykyo, and others—had members with the requisite skills and at least dabbled in researching and manufacturing such weapons, with Aum using them. Other may have been scared off by the difficulty of successfully employing them. While personal safety issues entailed in handling weapons would be a deterrent to some terrorists motivated by secular ideologies, groups with a surplus of suicide bombing volunteers would not have similar qualms.

Lack of use of standoff cyber attacks is more puzzling, but could be partially due to the difficulty of

attributing an attack to any given actor. While ISIS rarely misses an opportunity to claim credit for anything that harms the West, credibly claiming a cyber attack would require more proof than just an unsupported declaration. Moreover, cyberattacks are not as dramatic as physical ones, even if their longterm effects could be far more problematic. ISIS has effectively used the Internet to spread its propaganda; others have used it for clandestine passing of operational messages and sharing tactical techniques, including bombmaking. Tweeting and creating websites, however, is a level of sophistication below that of a mass-effect hack. Terrorists have stolen personal information and posted it to websites, but have not, as far as we know, caused mass damage, denied service, stolen billions from digital accounts, faked cryptocurrencies, meddled in elections, or otherwise sabotaged critical infrastructure.

The lack of use of the lesser-tech methods could be because the terrorists simply have not calculated that they need to resort to them. The spate of related low-tech methods—crashing vehicles into crowds, knifings on the street—has possibly caused enough death to sate the groups, or at least their acolytes, for a while.

Extension of Trends

The easy analytic projection is always “the future will look pretty similar to the past and present.” Terrorism numbers and tactics by and large have followed similar patterns for the five decades I’ve followed the phenomenon. But this does not mean that there will not be discontinuities that “change everything” like the black swan of, say, 9/11.

With that in mind, however, governments, researchers, and private citizens need to plan their activities around what is most likely, while still keeping attentive to the possibility of discontinuities. So one should look to where the points of likeliest danger are, and what the likeliest methods of attack are.

Unfortunately, those points of likeliest danger have shifted from the obvious war zones of, inter alia, Iraq, Syria, and Afghanistan, and more often are any places with large crowds, including shopping centers, parks, and tourist spots in major Western cities, including in the United States.

Despite its prominence in number of attacks and number of individuals killed and wounded, the Afghan Taliban is likely to stay in its area of operations—Afghanistan—in its efforts to expel the coalition from Afghanistan. The Taliban is likely to continue its links to the original al-Qaeda leadership, although Iran has supplanted Afghan territory as the base of operations for AQ.

Next Likely Terrorist Leader

The battlefield losses of ISIS in the Middle East, and the increasing inability of al-Qaeda senior lead-

ership to wrest control of the worldwide jihadi movement from its rivals does not mean that jihadism is dead. We may well see the birth of a third movement, perhaps under a new name. For the moment, all that is needed for a continuation of attacks is for the sharing of the jihadis' ideas via liking and sharing on social media platforms. Such idea transmission is exceptionally difficult for governments and like-minded members of the public to stop. Like whack-a-mole, when one site is quashed, another one, or more, rises to take its place.

What would this third iteration look like? What does the group need to do, say, and be? The continuation of attacks in the West and elsewhere has shown that lone wolves or occasional tiny cells do not need a central organization to orchestrate their attacks, as was the case in the 1970s and 1980s with more traditional left-wing and secular Palestinian terrorist groups. While the individuals and couples do not have the resources and logistic wherewithal to conduct spectacular attacks, they can nonetheless still obtain headlines and keep the movement alive by simple attacks such as knifings, active shooter situations, low-level bombings and car crashes. All of these are difficult to defend against, particularly if the terrorist wannabe does not blab to undercover government agents, informants, and alert civilians.

What the evolving group would need, then, is simply a charismatic leadership group steeped in the vernacular of the audiences of interest, plus a medium or media of spreading their words and images. These individuals have popped up from time to time, and although drone attacks have eliminated several of them, they continue to arise.

Moreover, the new group would need a few eye-catching operations to distinguish itself from others vying for the attention of these audiences. The ideology might not be enough for action-oriented disaffected youth looking for a cause to fight for, not just believe in. High casualty attacks would fulfill this requirement, as would imaginative attacks using previously unknown techniques.

The original al-Qaeda and more recent ISIS also benefited from having territory, owned and operated by itself or a like-minded patron, in which it could train, organize, and plot attacks. While an initially small group would not need extensive acreage, a major terrorist group would require safe havens on a large scale. One such area could be Libya, which has no central authority, is awash in weapons and violence, and has numerous splinter groups vying for dominance.

It is unlikely that al-Qaeda senior leadership will succeed in wresting leadership from the remains of ISIS. Al-Qaeda emir Ayman al-Zawahiri lacks the charisma of his predecessor, Osama bin Laden, or the operational acumen of his lieutenants in the far-flung al-Qaeda franchises, who share little beyond

the brand name with him or each other. While the U.S. government often lists al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula to be the most dangerous terrorist group in the world, at least for U.S. concerns, the elimination of bombmaker and mentor to aspiring bombmakers Ibrahim Hassan al-Asiri could diminish the urgency of AQAP's threat. Moreover, AQAP's *Inspire* magazine, which had offered distance learning to a generation of AQ wannabes, has cut back on its production, having gone silent for the past two years. *Inspire*, lacking a continuing spate of speeches and articles by the late Anwar al-Aulaqi, was eclipsed by ISIS's *Amaq* news service and the online *Dabiq* magazine (although it, too, has cut back production as the ISIS territory has shrunk). The franchises can be expected to continue operations in their regions, pursuing local aims and tribal affiliations, but are unlikely to become *primus inter pares* within al-Qaeda, much less the world's principal terrorist group. The franchises bear watching in their spheres of operation, however. They include:

- AQ Senior Leadership
- AQ in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS)
- AQ in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP)
- AQ in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM)
- AQ in Syria (Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham, or HTS)
- Al-Shabaab
- Group for the Support of Islam and Muslims (Jama'at Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimin, JNIM)
- Guardians of Religion
- Turkistan Islamic Party

Although the template for the mantle of the world's most prominent terrorist group has been held for the last two decades by jihadis, this does not mean that the next group will also be Islamist, or at least Sunni/Salafist. There are enough other causes that might speak to the disaffected. Increasing levels of poverty in some nations, the likelihood of a lower standard of living than one's parents for many millennials, growing interest in carving out new, smaller nations advocated by separatists, and other ideas could motivate fringe groups. While "we're going to wipe out your student debt" will not be the rallying cry for a major terrorist group, attentiveness to the worries of various polities will assist an ambitious group in fashioning a call to potential recruits.

Patron state support to terrorism has dwindled from the levels of the 1970s and 1980s, but still exists. The State Department's annual *Country Reports on Terrorism* for 2017 cited Iran and its proxies for attacks or attempted attacks in the Middle East, Europe, South America, and Africa, even sending operatives to the United States. The U.S. designated Iran as a state sponsor of terrorism in 1984; it does not appear that the designation will change anytime

soon. Iran has not been shielded from terrorist attacks on its own soil, from jihadis, tribal/secular groups, and separatists.

Responses

The fight against terrorism will continue to divert time, treasure, and talent from other goals and policy initiatives. While the opportunity costs of these endeavors is difficult at best to estimate, we can at least quantify some of what the Global War on Terrorism (and any other security measures not encompassed by that now-passé term) has cost. The Stimson Center calculated the through fiscal year 2017, post-9/11 antiterrorism efforts cost the United States by itself nearly \$3 trillion, including expenditures for homeland security efforts, international programs, and the wars in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria. The counterterrorism spending constituted roughly 16 percent of discretionary spending between FY02-FY17. At its peak, in FY08, counterterrorism spending reached 22 percent of total discretionary spending. By FY17, it had dwindled to 14 percent of the total, but still a dramatically large number.

The annual Costs of War project report from the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs at Brown University put the price tag, including Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs spending, at \$6 trillion by 2019.

While major Internet social media firms are aware of the problem posed by terrorists using their services for spreading their propaganda as well as passing operational messages to cell members or like-minded individuals, their intellectual heritage is more sympathetic to conversational free-for-alls than careful culling of ideas that could quickly be characterized as censorship. Self-policing is often incorrectly deemed an attack on the First Amendment, which limited Congress from abridging free speech but is silent on what private citizens may do to protect themselves and others from terrorists.

The defense—governments, corporations, citi-

zens—will need to try to think ahead of the terrorists. When they lose a tactic due to better security defensive procedures or loss of a savant in part of the terrorist repertoire, they don't quit. They move on to something else. So if we were to, say, stop knifings and car attacks, what would they try next? We need to think like terrorists tactically—not necessarily just what motivates them, but what can they do to harm people, a few or a lot.

Additional Research Sources

For those who prefer to run textual searches for specific groups, individuals, or incidents, a computer version of the 1960–2007 ITERATE (International Terrorism: Attributes of Terrorist Events) textual chronology is available from Vinyard Software, Inc., 502 Wandering Woods Way, Ponte Vedra, Florida 32081–0621, or e-mail via vinyardsoftware@hotmail.com. The data set comes in a WordPerfect and Word textual version and looks remarkably like the volumes in this series of print books. A numeric version offers circa 150 numeric variables describing the international attacks from 1968 to 2018. The data sets can be purchased by specific year of interest. See www.vinyardsoftware.com for further details.

Vinyard also offers the Data on Terrorist Suspects (DOTS) project, where you will find a detailed biographical index of every terrorist suspect identified in the previous volumes of this chronology.

Comments about this volume's utility and suggestions for improvements for its likely successors are welcome and can be sent to me via vinyardsoftware@hotmail.com. Please send your terrorism publication citations to me to ensure inclusion in the next edition.

Once again, there are many individuals who have contributed to this research effort. Of particular note are the staff at McFarland, who have a well-earned reputation for quality and for being exceptionally easy to work with; and my family.

WORLDWIDE

April 25–26: During a two-day operation, police throughout Europe and North America seized servers and data from ISIS propaganda outlets in an effort to find radicals and stymie the group's propaganda mechanisms. Europol targeted ISIS's *Amaq* news agency, *al-Bayan* radio, and the *Halumu* and *Nasher* news sites. *Amaq* spreads information online in nine languages. The operation, led by Belgian prosecutors, involved authorities in the U.S., Canada, UK, France, the Netherlands, Bulgaria and Romania.

April 26: Representatives of more than 70 countries—among them ministers of justice, finance, foreign affairs and the interior from Western countries, the Arab world and other nations as well as representatives of 18 international organizations—participating in an international “No money for terror” conference at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Paris agreed in a final declaration to “fully criminalize” terror financing through effective and proportionate sanctions “even in the absence of links with a specific

terrorist act.” The conference was aimed at developing measures against ISIS and al-Qaeda. As usual, participants also called for better information-sharing between intelligence services, law enforcement, financial businesses and the tech industry and agreed to improve the traceability of funds going to non-governmental organizations and charity associations. A similar conference was scheduled to be hosted by Australia in 2019.

September 11: *Breaking Defense* reported that the Stimson Center announced that through fiscal 2017, the post-9/11 war on terrorism had cost the U.S. nearly \$3 trillion, including expenditures for homeland security efforts, international programs, and the wars in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria. The report noted, “Of \$18 trillion in discretionary spending between fiscal years 2002–2017, CT (counterterrorism) spending made up nearly 16 percent of the whole. At its peak in 2008, CT spending amounted to 22 percent of total discretionary spending. By 2017, CT spending had fallen to 14 percent of the total.”

AFRICA

Burkina Faso

March 2: NPR and AP reported that eight jihadis and seven soldiers died in attacks at 10:15 a.m. on the French Embassy and Army Headquarters in Ouagadougou. Burkina Faso's army health director general, Colonel Amade Kafando, said that more than 90 people were wounded. No one in the Embassy was hurt, but a gendarme and all four attackers who arrived in a pick-up truck were killed in the operation against the Embassy. The terrorists, who wore army uniforms, yelled "Allahu Akhbar," torched the truck, and began firing. The Embassy attack occurred in a neighborhood that houses embassies, the offices of the prime minister and the United Nations. Serious damage was reported at the Army facility; one room where senior officers were to have met was destroyed. Among the dead was Army Colonel Djibril Lalle, director of studies and planning at the Ministry of Defense and who was a former governor of the Sahel region. Some terrorists wore military clothing and hoped to kill the senior military officials scheduled to meet in that room. Two men were arrested. The Mauritanian news agency *Alakhbar* reported that the al-Qaeda-linked Jama Nusrat ul-Islam wa al-Muslimin (JNIM) claimed credit on March 3, saying it was retaliating for the killing of one of its leaders in a recent raid by French troops. Burkinabe officials were investigating whether a former soldier believed to have been fired from the army after a 2011 mutiny participated in the attacks. On March 5, JNIM released a photo of Yunus al-Fulani, whom it claimed was the suicide bomber. On March 26, authorities said they had arrested eight Burkinabe citizens, including two serving soldiers and a former soldier who was kicked out of the military after a 2011 mutiny. 18030201

May 15: Security ministry spokesman Jean Paul Badoum announced that during the night, gunmen killed Patrice Kabore, prefect of Oursi in Ouadalan Province in the Sahel region, and burned his home.

They laid the prefect's body out front. Oursi had been threatened by extremists several times.

May 22: Security Minister Clement Sawadogo said that three extremists and one member of the security forces were killed and four members of the security forces and two civilians were wounded in a six-hour shootout in Rayongo outside Ouagadougou. One jihadi was arrested and 30 others were brought in for questioning. Police seized AK-47s, grenades, truck-mounted machine guns and bomb-making materials.

August 27: Eight gendarmes and soldiers died when their vehicle hit a mine while driving in the country's east toward the Benin border. The group had left Fada to support the gendarmerie in Pama where there had been an attack by jihadists. The army arrested several suspects.

September 14: Extremists killed nine civilians in two attacks in the country's east. Terrorists attacked a mosque in Diabiga, killing six people, including an imam. Terrorists shot to death three members of a family in Kompienga Province.

September 26: Eight soldiers were killed when their vehicle hit an explosive device between Baraboule and Djibo in Soum Province in the Sahel region.

The previous weekend, jihadis were suspected when gunmen kidnapped a South African, an Indian and their driver who worked for a gold mining company in Soum Province. Three gendarmes were killed. No one claimed credit. 18099901

October 3: Seven soldiers died and two were seriously wounded when the vehicle hit a mine between Gayeri and Bartieboubou.

October 4: Scores of heavily armed gunmen attacked the Inata mining site in Soum Province, killing one gendarme and wounding a second. Three others were missing. France's military conducted a drone and Mirage strike against extremists fleeing the scene.

December 27: Security Minister Clement Sawadogo said ten gendarmes were killed in a morning ambush after gunmen set fire to a school in Sourou Province near the border with Mali. Troops who arrived to reinforce the gendarmes accidentally triggered an explosive device, injuring three members of the security forces. Jihadis were suspected.

AP added that in the previous week, three soldiers and a policeman died in separate attacks around Burkina Faso.

Burundi

May 11: Minister of Security Alain Guillaume Bunyoni said a “terrorist group” attacked people in Ruhagarika in Cibitoke Province at 10 p.m., killing 26 people and wounding seven. NPR said the terrorists then fled into the Congo. Witnesses said people were hacked with machetes, shot, or burned alive.

Cameroon

March 2018: AP reported on October 31, 2018, that a Tunisian and his co-worker were killed in an operation in Manyu Division that freed four other Tunisian engineers. 18039901

April 2018: AP reported on October 31, 2018, that armed gangs kidnapped foreign road construction engineers in Mamfe in the south west region for neglecting demands to stop building roads. During a military raid to free them, a Nigerian and a Gabonese died and three were saved. 18049901

April 2: Government spokesman Issa Tchiroma Bakary announced that security forces in Manyu freed 18 hostages, including seven Swiss and five Italian tourists visiting a lake in the region, who had been seized by separatists fighting for the independence of English-speaking regions. Locals helped the military locate the hostages, whose vehicle had been seized while they were visiting a lake in the region several days earlier. Six municipal counsellors in the northwest also were freed. Separatists took them after warning that Anglophone parts of Cameroon were now considered the independent state of Ambazonia and would not accept elections organized by an outside country. 18039902

May 20: Mayor Ekuh Simon was kidnapped in the English-speaking town of Bangem. Armed separatists of the Ambazonia Restoration Forces released a video in which he said that he and his deputy were kidnapped for planning independence celebrations. Ambazonia is the name separatists have given to the English-speaking area they want to become independent from French-speaking

Cameroon. Ayuk Tabe, who declared himself the president of the English-speaking Republic of Ambazonia, was arrested in December 2017 with 48 others in Nigeria and extradited to Cameroon. They had not been seen in public since. The separatists demanded his release.

Two policeman and several other people were killed in fighting in the English-speaking towns of Konye, Batibo, Ekona and several villages of Kupe Muanenguba, an administrative area in the southwest.

July: AP reported on October 31, 2018, that a Ghanaian pastor was found dead with bullet wounds in July near Buea. 18079901

July 12: The military denied reports that soldiers were involved when a video was released that appeared to depict women with small children being blindfolded and shot dead as suspected Boko Haram suicide bombers.

October 25: The military raided training grounds of Anglophone separatists, starting gun battles. An AP reported saw 18 bodies in villages. Local media reported 30 people were killed in Ngarum village.

October 30: Charles Trumann Wesco, a missionary from Indiana who had been in the region for two weeks, died in northwestern Cameroon after being shot in the head while in his car being driven by another missionary amid fighting between armed separatists and soldiers in Bamenda in the Anglophone Northwest Region. He left behind a wife, Stephanie, and eight children. Regional Governor Deben Tchoffo said Wesco might have been caught in the crossfire when armed groups staged attacks to stop the reopening of the University of Bamenda. Military spokesman Colonel Didier Badjeck said the military killed four suspects in Wesco's death and arrested many others. The family had been in the country for two weeks. They were driving from the Bamenda suburb of Bambili, where they lived, to Bamnui. No one else was hurt. 18103001

November 2: During the night, armed separatists chopped off the fingers of four workers, including David Epie, 43, on a rubber plantation in the English-speaking southwest. The terrorists said the victims had ignored demands not to work on the rubber plantations.

November 4: Governor Deben Tchoffo said that during the night, armed separatists kidnapped 79 students aged 11–17 and three staff, including their principal, from a Presbyterian school in Nkwen near Bamenda, the capital of the troubled English-speaking region. Men calling themselves Amba Boys, a reference to the state of Ambazonia that armed separatists are trying to establish in

Cameroon's Anglophone northwest and southwest regions, released a video of the kidnapped children, forcing several young male students to give their names and the names of their parents. The children said they were kidnapped late November 4 by the armed men and they did not know where they were being held. The kidnappers said, "We shall only release you after the struggle. You will be going to school now here." On November 7, the moderator of the country's Presbyterian Church, Fonki Samuel Forba, said that the 79 children had been released, but two of the three staff members abducted remained hostages. He said the school previously had some students kidnapped which was resolved when the church paid a ransom of 2.5 million francs (about \$4,000) to the armed gang. On November 13, Forba said all students and staff had been freed without a ransom being paid. Two students, the principal and a staff member were released "in different intervals."

November 14: A military spokesman said soldiers freed hostages and killed 30 separatists in two days of fighting in the Mayo Binka area near Nkambe in the English-speaking North West region. No soldiers died.

Separatists were believed to have killed the mayor of Nwa, a local council in the same region.

November 20: In the morning, gunmen kidnapped nine students and their teacher from Lords Bilingual School in Kumba, in the English-speaking South West region, according to Nto'ou Ndong Chamberlin, senior divisional officer for the Meme Division. Chamberlain announced that the military freed the hostages, destroyed the gunmen's camp, and that "Two of the terrorists were killed yesterday and two others early today." He claimed that when the military came in, the kidnappers fled, abandoning the children. Others were on the run and wounded. The military found three of the children in the bush late November 20 and six others with their teacher on November 21. The teacher was wounded in crossfire shooting and was being treated in the hospital in Kumba.

November 21: Moloka Ekwe, divisional officer for the Eyumojock administrative area, said Kenyan missionary Rev. Cosmas Ondari was killed in crossfire between the military and armed separatists in the South West region. Ekwe says there were other casualties. 18112101

November 23: General Agha Robinson said the military had destroyed three Anglophone separatist camps in operations since the previous day in Bali village in the Mezam administrative area and Abu village in the Fundong administrative area in the North West region, killing 43 armed separatists and seizing guns, ammunition, machetes, motorcycles and drugs.

December 14: The governor of the Far North region, Midjiyawa Bakari, said that during the night, two female suicide bombers who came from Nigeria wounded a woman and a 12-year-old girl in Kolofata near the Nigerian border. He said the terrorists hit a home where women had gathered to prepare for a weekly market. It was the third suicide bombing in Kolofata that week. 18121401

December 18: The military announced that it had killed seven suspected English-speaking separatist rebels in Bamenda in the North West region. Four soldiers were rushed to the local hospital.

December 21: On December 24, *al-Jazeera* reported that Anglophone separatists in Cameroon's Northwest and Southwest Regions on December 21 issued the AmbaCoin virtual currency to help fund their campaign for independence and provide humanitarian aid. The currency's website said, "The People of Ambazonia has created AmbaCoin, a tradeable digital token that can be used as a currency, a representation of an asset, a virtual share, a proof of patriotic citizenship.... All sales of the AmbaCoin will be directed to fund the Ambazonian Cause, to assist Refugees & Internally Displaced Persons, to rebuild homes destroyed by occupying military forces, and to defend communities from the repressive regime of La Republique Du Cameroun." One "amba" for the "Ambazonian Crypto Bond" costs 25 U.S. cents.

December 23–24: Regional Governor Augustine Awah Fonka said armed English-speaking separatists attacked Bangourain, a French-speaking town, killing one person, kidnapping 15 others and burning 86 homes. Local resident Abdouramann Njowir said the attackers called the recent release of nearly 300 suspected separatists who had been jailed for almost a year without trial "a provocation." The gunmen shouted for the release of their jailed leader, who could face the death penalty.

Central African Republic

January 22: A court sentenced anti-Balaka militia warlord Rodrigue Ngaibona, alias General Andjilo, to life in prison for multiple murders between October 2014 and January 2015.

February 25: UNICEF's West and Central Africa Regional Director Marie-Pierre Poirier announced that one of its workers and five other education workers were killed in an attack while traveling near Markoundia, near the border with Chad. 18022501

March 31: U.N. peacekeepers and CAR forces res-

cued 15 people who had been kidnapped by the Lord's Resistance Army rebel group led by Joseph Kony, who is wanted by the International Criminal Court for war crimes.

April 2: U.N. peacekeepers were informed during the evening that UPC rebels had detained 23 people, including 13 women, seven men and three children, in Tagbara. The hostages were released peacefully to U.N. peacekeepers.

April 3: Mostly Christian anti-Balaka militia fighters attacked a temporary U.N. peacekeeping base in Tagbara in the morning. One peacekeeper was killed and 11 others were injured in a several-hour clash. More than 22 anti-Balaka fighters died.

Peacekeepers later found the bodies of 21 civilians, including four women and four children, killed with "traditional weapons" near a church in Tagbara.

April 10: A Rwandan UN peacekeeper was killed and eight others were wounded during "an exchange of fire with armed elements" in Bangui. 18041001

May 15: Mayor Abel Matchipata said members of the UPC rebel group snuck into Bambari overnight and attacked the next morning with assault rifles and knives, killing six people. They attacked the mayor's office and police and radio stations in retaliation for the deaths of three UPC members during a robbery outside the city on May 14. UPC is an offshoot of the mostly Muslim coalition known as Seleka, which overthrew Central African Republic's longtime president in 2013. Medecins Sans Frontieres representatives in Bangui said more than 300 people sought refuge at Bambari hospital, where a civilian died.

June 3: U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric said a Tanzanian peacekeeper was killed and seven others were wounded, one critically, three seriously, when a U.N. patrol was ambushed in Dilapoko in Mambere-Kadei Prefecture.

June 10: Gunmen attacked a U.N. patrol in Bambari, killing a Burundian peacekeeper and wounding another. 18061001

The Unity and Peace in the Central African Republic armed group attacked a troop convoy heading from Ouaka prefecture to Bangassou, wounding two soldiers and a Russian instructor. Five attackers were killed. 18061002

July 30: The Russian Foreign Ministry said Russian journalists Kirill Radchenko, Alexander Rastorguyev and Orkhan Dzhemal were killed in an ambush 14 miles outside Sibut after dark. Their driver fled and informed authorities the next day. The journalists were investigating Russian private military contractors, particularly the Wagner firm linked to Yevgeny Prigozhin, and CAR mining industries. Ten Arabic-speaking men wearing turbans had kidnapped them.

The trio were traveling to the north to talk to a United Nations representative there. They were carrying several thousand U.S. dollars in cash, plus cameras and gear. 18073002

August 23: Anti-Balaka elements were blamed for an attack that killed a U.N. peacekeeper from Burundi. 18082301

November: On December 14, Amnesty International said that rebels attacked a displaced persons camp in Alindao, killing 70 civilians. Numerous witnesses said that outnumbered Mauritanian U.N. peacekeepers retreated without firing a shot. 18119901

Congo

February 19: Gunmen killed two Congolese workers with the French group aid Hydraulique Sans Frontieres and took a third Congolese hostage in Mushikiri in North Kivu Province. Mai Mai militia are active in the area. 18021901

March 2: Authorities found the bodies of 34 killed in intercommunal fighting between members of the Lendu and Hema in several villages in Ituri Province.

March 27-28: Deputy Mayor Muhindo Bakwanamaha Modeste said Allied Democratic Forces rebels attacked Beni suburbs overnight, killing ten. Another ten people were missing.

May 11: UN-backed *Radio Okapi* reported that gunmen ambushed a vehicle bringing tourists from Kibumba to Goma, killing Virunga National Park Ranger Rachel Makissa Baraka and kidnapping two British tourists and their driver. The driver was injured. On May 13, UK Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson said the British hostages were freed. 18051101

On May 15, U.N. Congo mission spokeswoman Florence Marchal said two peacekeepers from Benin went missing in Nyunzu territory in Tanganyika Province on May 11 after 13 peacekeepers went on a mission from Kongolo to Kalemie. Ali Omar Simukinje, vice-governor of Tanganyika, said Mai Mai and other militias operate in the area. Simukinje said the two peacekeepers were freed by the Mai Mai on May 16. 18051102

May 24: In a clash between soldiers and Allied Democratic Forces rebels in Mbau-Kamango, 14 rebels and five soldiers died and another ten soldiers were wounded. The soldiers had been pursuing gunmen who staged an attack on May 20 outside Beni, killing 11 civilians.

August 11: The *USA Times* of the KVH Media Group on August 12, 2018, reported that Ugandan Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) rebels killed six civilians in an attack in the east.

September 22: The U.N.-backed *Radio Okapi* reported that 14 civilians and four soldiers were killed in the attacks on a military position and on market stalls by suspected Uganda-based Allied Democratic Forces rebels in the Rwenzori community of Beni. The city and region face an Ebola outbreak that had infected 118 people, including 69 people who died. 18092201

October 20: In the evening, Mai Mai rebels surged from a forest and killed two unarmed medical agents with the Congolese Army who had been assisting health officials fighting an outbreak of Ebola at an entrance to Butembo city. Civilians were not targeted. The number of confirmed Ebola cases had reached 200, including 117 deaths.

Rebels killed 13 civilians and abducted a dozen children in an attack on Congolese army positions and several neighborhoods in the Mayangose area of Beni. U.N. peacekeepers fired back. 18102001

A deadly rebel attack against civilians in Beni in September forced the suspension of Ebola containment efforts for days.

November 14: Eight U.N. peacekeepers—seven from Malawi, one from Tanzania—and twelve Congolese soldiers were killed and 10 peacekeepers were wounded in a military operation with Congolese forces against Allied Democratic Forces rebels against rebels in Kididiwe in the Beni region. One U.N. peacekeeper was missing. 18111401

November 16–17: Beginning in the night and continuing into the morning, ADF rebels burned three homes and a car in the Boikene neighborhood in the Beni region.

November 24: The United States embassy announced it had received “credible and specific information of a possible terrorist threat against U.S. government facilities in Kinshasa” and closed the facility to the public on November 26.

December 22: Army Captain Mak Hazukay Mongba, spokesman for the army in Beni, said an ADF militia from Uganda attacked Beni during the night, killing five civilians and wounding eight others.

Ethiopia

June 23: *EPA-EFE*, *NPR*, the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post* reported that an attacker in a police uniform threw a grenade at a political rally attended by tens of thousands of people, killing two people and injuring 155, ten critically, in Addis Ababa’s Meskel Square. The master of ceremonies had just said “this is the day that Ethiopia has become proud” when the grenade went off. A participant saw the terrorist and batted his hand, so that the grenade did not reach the stage. Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, 42, was unharmed. Police arrested

three suspects. *ETV* reported that nine police officials were later arrested, including the deputy head of the capital’s police commission. By June 25, more than 30 people were arrested. Police later said that it was an assassination attempt. The U.S. sent FBI investigators.

AP reported on September 28, 2018, that Ethiopia’s attorney general filed terrorism charges against five people accused of trying to “kill the prime minister” Abiy Ahmed at the rally. The charge sheet claimed that the defendants believed that Ahmed was unpopular among Oromos, Ethiopia’s largest ethnic group, and wanted to pave the way for the once-banned Oromo Liberation Front. He was the first prime minister from the Oromo ethnic group. Its leaders returned after the government in July removed it from a terror list and invited all exiled groups to participate in politics. The state-affiliated *Fana Broadcasting Corporate* reported that some of the attack’s collaborators remained at large, including a woman who lives in neighboring Kenya and allegedly masterminded it.

June 30: The cabinet passed a resolution to remove the Ogaden National Liberation Front, the Oromo Liberation Front and Ginbot 7 from a terror list as part of sweeping reforms under new Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed. The groups operated mainly from Eritrea. The delisting resolution went to Parliament. Senior figures with the groups, including British national Andargachew Tsige, were recently released from prison. Al-Qaeda and al-Shabaab stayed on the list.

September 15–16: The chief of the Oromia Police Commission, Alemayehu Ejigu, told the state broadcaster *ETV* that afternoon and overnight ethnic-based attacks in the Burayu and Ashewa Meda suburbs of Addis Ababa killed several people and caused hundreds to flee their homes. Authorities arrested 70 suspects. Ejigu observed, “The perpetrators are criminals organized in groups to kill people and cause damages to the properties of targeted citizens.”

Kenya

January 2: North Eastern regional coordinator Mohamud Saleh said suspected al-Shabaab members killed five police officers in Mandera County when they attacked a vehicle carrying the three police reservists and two administration police officers along the Elwak-Kotulo road. Several other officers were injured in a second attack on security officials who responded during the evening.

January 13: Al-Shabaab was suspected when gunmen attacked a convoy of police vehicles escorting buses between Mombasa and Lamu County. A civilian died, several policemen were wounded, and the vehicles were destroyed. 18011301

Youth burned down a Catholic church in Marsabit County following the arrest of Muslim cleric Guyo Gorsa, whom the government accused of recruiting youth into al-Shabaab.

January 31: Two rifle shots and a stun grenade were fired at the home in Karen of former Kenyan Vice President Kalonzo Musyoka, who called the 1 a.m. attack “an assassination attempt.” The attack occurred hours after his police security was withdrawn and he was prevented from attending the mock inauguration of opposition leader Raila Odinga, 73. Musyoka was to take the oath as Odinga’s deputy as Odinga declared himself “the people’s president.” No one was hurt. Musyoka said a private security firm vehicle parked in front of his gate may have dissuaded the attackers from entering his home.

February 15: Police said they foiled another attack in Merti in Isiolo County, killing a suspect, arresting two others, and recovering a huge cache of weapons—1,000 bullets, 36 grenades, 18 bombs and five rifles—in the dead terrorist’s vehicle. Al-Shabaab was suspected.

February 16: Al-Shabaab was suspected of a nighttime attack against non-Muslim teachers in Qarsa primary school in Wajir County that killed three teachers. A responding rescue team ran over an improvised explosive device but no one was injured.

AP reported on March 16, 2018, that police arrested five al-Shabaab members planning to attack the Milimani Laws Courts building in Nairobi on February 16, when Sheik Guyo Gorsa, who was arrested in January in Marsabit County, was to face terrorism charges. They had hoped to help him escape. The court ruled on March 16 that the five could be held for another 30 days. Police arrested them after spotting a vehicle loaded with explosives and weapons hidden in a thicket in Isiolo County. Gunmen fired at the officers when they approached the vehicle. Officers returned fire, killing one suspect. Two people were arrested at the scene. The vehicle was rigged as a bomb with 176 pounds of TNT. Police confiscated five rifles, 36 loaded magazines, 36 unprimed hand grenades and 18 improvised bombs.

March 2: Regional Coordinator Mohamud Saleh said terrorists blew up a telecommunications mast to cut off cell phone contact before attacking government administration offices and Kenya police camps in Mandera County, killing five police officers. Al-Shabaab was suspected.

June 6: Five General Service Unit paramilitary police officers on patrol were killed and three others wounded when their truck ran over a bomb in the morning in Garissa County near the Liboi border

crossing with Somalia. No one claimed credit. Al-Shabaab was suspected.

June 17: Kenyan legislator Ahmed Bashane said eight police officers were killed in Tarbaj in Wajir County after their vehicle was hit by a roadside bomb planted by suspected al-Shabaab terrorists.

August 29: A roadside bomb hit a military vehicle on the Kiunga-Sankuri road in Lamu County, killing five Kenyan soldiers and wounding ten soldiers. Al-Shabaab was suspected. The soldiers were on a humanitarian mission to obtain and distribute water to the people of the area. 18082901

October 10: Al-Shabaab was suspected when a bomb killed two non-Muslim teachers in Mandera County. Some 20 extremists attacked the teachers’ quarters at the Arabia Boys Secondary school in Lafey and threw an improvised bomb into the “non-local” teachers’ quarters. 18101001

November 20: At 8 p.m., gunmen attacked a children’s home in the Chakama trading center in Kilifi County, firing indiscriminately and wounding a woman and four children. Police said a child, 10, was shot in the eye and a 12-year-old was shot in the thigh. The terrorists kidnapped an Italian woman, Silvia Costanza Romano, 23, a volunteer aid worker for the Italian charity Africa Milele. The gunmen dragged her toward a nearby river and crossed it with her. The *Washington Post* added that witnesses heard them speaking Somali. No group claimed credit. Fellow aid worker Churchill Otieno Onyango said, “The guys who approached the house were three Somalis. Two were having guns, one was not. The one who grabbed the lady slapped her and disappeared with her. We were told to lie down and they began shooting while they went away.” Village elder Albert Chome said that a gunman said he was Said Adan Abdi, a herdsman with goats and cattle he wanted to bring through the village. Chome said Abdi booked himself for three nights into a local guesthouse. Kenyan police took several people into custody for questioning. By November 23, three “persons of interest” were among the 20 people being held by police. AP reported on November 23 that witnesses heard the gunmen demanding money. No one claimed credit.

On November 24, Kenya’s National Police Service identified three suspects as Yusuf Kuno Adan, Ibrahim Adan Omar, and Said Adan Abdi, offering a one million Kenyan shilling (\$9,750) reward for information leading to their arrest. On December 11, 2018, AP reported that Kenyan police on December 9 had arrested Ibrahim Adan Omar in Bangali in Tana County. Police had offered a \$10,000 reward for Adan, whom they called armed and dangerous. 18112001

Mali

January 25: A truck carrying traders from Burkina Faso for the Thursday market in Mali hit a bomb, killing 26 people, including six women and four children, near Boni village in Mali. The victims were from Mali and Burkina Faso. The border area is home to a radicalized preacher whose Ansarul Islam group has attacked security forces and civilians. No one claimed credit. 18012501

January 27: In the morning, jihadis attacked an army camp in the Timbuktu area, killing 14 soldiers. Army spokesman Colonel Diarran Kone said the bodies of 17 assailants were found at the scene.

February 9: A vehicle returning from a village market hit a land mine between Kontza and Dera in the Mopti region in the afternoon, killing four civilians and wounding several others.

February 13–14: The *Long War Journal* reported that the French military announced that its forces killed or captured 20 jihadis in near-simultaneous raids near the border of Mali and Algeria, between Boughessa and the Algerian town of Tinzaouatene, as part of Operation Barkhane. The raids targeted senior commanders of AQIM's Group for Support of Islam and Muslims (JNIM). The French reported "three vehicles destroyed, several weapons captured, and a large number of documents seized." *AFP* reported that targets included a "base of the head of the network, Iyad Ag Ghaly, at Tinzaouatene."

February 17: French soldiers killed "around 10" jihadis during an operation near the Niger border.

February 21: A French soldier and a French officer died when their armored vehicle hit an improvised explosive device in the morning. 18022101

February 28: U.N. mission in Mali chief Mahamat Saleh Annadif in Mali said four U.N. peacekeepers from Bangladesh were killed when their vehicle hit an explosive device in the Mopti region along the Boni-Douentza road. Four other peacekeepers were seriously wounded. Six Malian soldiers died the previous day when they hit a mine in the Segou region. 18202801

March 28: Four gunmen attacked the Hotel la Falaise in Bandjagara during the night, killing a soldier standing guard and wounding two civilians, including a hotel employee. The hotel is popular with aid workers and businessmen. A bank guard ran up to fight the terrorists, who fled. The attack came days after Prime Minister Soumeylou Boubeye Maiga visited the city, promising to defeat the jihadis. No group claimed credit.

March 31: Malian authorities handed over to the International Criminal Court Al Hassan Ag Abdoul Aziz Ag Mohamed Ag Mahmoud, a jihadi leader for prosecution on war crimes charges, including crimes

against humanity allegedly committed in Timbuktu while the town was under the control of extremists between April 2012 and January 2013. ICC Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda said Mahmoud was accused of persecution on "both religious and gender grounds," including rape and sexual slavery through forced marriages.

April 5: During the night, mortar rounds hit a U.N. peacekeepers' camp in Aguelhoc in Kidal region, killing two peacekeepers from Chad and wounding ten Chadians. 18040501

April 7: Two gunmen fired on a U.N. peacekeeping vehicle in Gao, killing a Nigerian peacekeeper. Jihadis were suspected. 18040701

April 14: Jihadis set off three car bombs in an attack at a MINUSMA camp near Timbuktu, killing a U.N. peacekeeper and injuring ten French soldiers, five seriously, from Operation Barkhane. The French army said the attack was "particularly sophisticated and underhanded." The French army later said seven French soldiers were injured and 15 attackers were killed. One of the vehicles used in the attack had been disguised as a MINUSMA vehicle; the other was marked as a Malian military vehicle. Some jihadis wore peacekeepers' uniforms and explosive belts and used vehicles covered up with U.N. and Malian army codes. AQIM claimed credit on April 20, saying it was retaliating for military operations that killed colleagues. 18041401

April 26–27: Gunmen on motorbikes conducted two attacks near the border with Niger, killing 40 civilians. Menaka Governor Daouda Maiga said Fulani members of Islamic State Greater Sahara likely attacked in retaliation for military actions supported by Tuaregs in the region.

May 3: Moussa Ag Acharatoumane, secretary-general for a Tuareg self-defense group, said attacks by Islamic State in the Greater Sahara in Tindinbawen and Taylalen in the Menaka region killed 17 people.

June 12: Minister of Defense Tiena Coulibaly announced that the army had killed ten extremists after they attacked Bani in the central Mopti region. Soldiers recovered weapons, explosive devices and other materials. No group claimed credit.

June 23: A community militia killed 32 civilians, mostly herders, in an attack on Koumaga village in central Mali then returned shortly after Malian soldiers left and killed a man and his three sons. Many bodies had been buried by the time Malian soldiers responded.

June 29: A car bomb went off at the headquarters in Sebare, near Mopti, of a new, 5,000-strong five-nation (Mali, Burkina Faso, Chad, Niger and Mauritania) G5 Sahel West African counterterrorism force,

sparking a gun battle that killed two soldiers, a civilian and two attackers. Dr. Djibril Kassogue of the Severe Hospital said that four soldiers, three suspected attackers and a civilian were wounded. Two other terrorists were captured. The al-Qaeda-affiliated JNIM claimed credit. 18062901

June 30: Four Malian soldiers were killed when their vehicle hit a land mine in the Koro area.

July 1: A gray 4X4 suicide car bomb hit a patrol of French soldiers in armored vehicles in Gao, killing four civilians and wounding 31, including eight French soldiers. 18070101

July 15: Fahad Ag Al Mahmoud, secretary-general of the Tuareg defense group GATIA, said that gunmen killed a dozen civilians in an attack on Injalane near the country's border with Niger. He suggested the attackers were armed bandits associated with a criminal network operating along the Mali and Niger border. No one claimed credit.

July 31: Defense Minister Tiena Coulibaly said four soldiers in a convoy were killed in an ambush by armed men in Segou region.

August 26: *Business Insider* and *Stars and Stripes* reported that an airstrike by two French Mirage fighters on a terrorist camp killed Mohamed Ag Almouner, a senior leader of the Islamic State in the Greater Sahara, the Islamic State affiliate in West Africa that killed four American Green Berets and five Nigerien troops and wounded ten other soldiers in an ambush in Niger in October 2017. The strike killed a second terrorist and two civilians.

September 5: The *Long War Journal* reported that the U.S. Department of State designated Jama'at Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimin (JNIM), al-Qaeda's branch in Mali and West Africa, as a terrorist group. JNIM was established in March 2017. It was led by Iyad Ghaly, a Malian Tuareg jihadist openly loyal to al-Qaeda and to the emir of the Taliban. The group brought together Ghaly's Ansar Dine, al-Murabitoun, AQIM's branch in the Sahara, and the Macina Liberation Front (MLF), alias Katibat Macina. State designated Ghaly a terrorist in February 2013.

September 26: Moussa Ag Acharatoumane, secretary-general for the Tuareg self-defense group, said armed men on motorcycles attacked the nomadic Iboghilitane community near Mali's border with Niger, killing 27 civilians.

Mali's defense minister said seven soldiers and a driver were killed after two military vehicles hit explosive devices between Bambaramaoude and Douentza.

October 27: Gunmen in heavily armed vehicles attacked a U.N. camp in Ber outside of Timbuktu, killing two U.N. peacekeepers from Burkina Faso and wounding a dozen other Burkinabe. 18102701

A U.N. peacekeeping mission control vehicle ran over an explosive device in Konna in Mopti region, wounding four Togolese peacekeepers. 18102702

Jihadis were suspected.

November 22–23: French Armed Forces Minister Florence Parly announced that French anti-terrorism forces as part of Operation Barkhane had killed 30 al-Qaeda-linked extremists in central Mali during an overnight attack involved air strikes, Reaper drones, helicopter assaults, and ground engagement. Possibly among the dead was a chief jihadi leader, Hamadoun Kouffa, and other main leaders of the Katibat Macina jihadist group. Kouffa led Katibat Macina, a predominantly Fulani jihadist group that is part of the JNIM group of al-Qaeda-linked militants.

Weeks earlier, armed forces had killed Tuareg leader Almansour Ag Alkassoum, a deputy leader of the al-Qaeda-linked coalition who led a jihadist unit based in the Gourma region between Timbuktu and Mopti.

December 11–12: Moussa Ag Acharatoumane, a Tuareg self-defense official, said that suspected jihadis on motorcycles killed 42 people during a series of attacks on Tuareg nomadic camps in the eastern Menaka region. Victims included children as young as eight.

December 13: Authorities arrested four men accused of "preparing to carry out attacks on certain sensitive targets" before the end of the year in Abidjan, Ivory Coast; Bamako, Mali; and Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. Authorities implicated the men in March attacks in Ouagadougou and said their group had become "a recruitment operation" for Islamic-inspired militants. Intelligence services said a preliminary investigation "proved that the four terrorists also participated in the kidnapping of Colombian nun Sister Gloria Cecilia Narvaez" in February 2017.

Mozambique

May 27: The Portuguese *Lusa* news agency reported that police said ten people, including two teens, were beheaded in a machete attack near Olumbi. Authorities were pursuing the suspects. Police believed the attackers were with the same jihadi group that killed police officers in Mocimboa da Praia in October 2017.

June 8: The U.S. Embassy issued a warning regarding the likelihood of attacks on government and commercial centers in Palma, a district headquarters in Cabo Delgado.

June 11: *AP* reported that jihadis were suspected in a series of beheadings and other fatal attacks. In May

and June, men with machetes hit several villages in Cabo Delgado Province on the border with Tanzania, beheading 10 people in one attack, hacking others to death and burning vehicles and homes. The Portuguese news agency *Lusa* reported that 24 people died and security forces killed eleven suspected terrorists. Local residents called the attackers “al-Shabaab,” although they had no apparent connection with the Somali group.

Niger

January 11: On January 13, 2018, *AP* and the *Mauritanian Nouakchott News Agency* reported that the self-professed IS affiliate Abu al-Walid al-Sahrawi claimed responsibility for the attack that killed four U.S. soldiers and four Nigerien troops, a January 11, 2018, attack on a French military convoy, and a series of attacks in Niger and border areas with Mali and Burkina Faso.

April 11: *DPA* and *Deutsche Welle* reported that gunmen on four motorcycles kidnapped a German Help organization worker near the town of Ayorou in Tillaberi region near the border with Mali. They burned the vehicle in which he was traveling. The aid worker and his Nigerien colleagues did not have a military escort. *ActuNiger* reported that jihadis were suspected. 18041102

June 4: Three suicide bombers—two women and a man—attacked outside a mosque at midnight in Diffa, killing six people and wounded 37, eight seriously. Boko Haram was suspected.

September: Gunmen on motorcycles in the Diffa region kidnapped a woman, 70, who was the mother of a national deputy. The kidnappers demanded a ransom of 20 million FCFA (\$35,000). Her son, Boulou Boukar, said, “We did not pay ransom, the kidnappers brought her back.”

September 18: Government spokesman Zakaria Abdourahmane said an Italian priest, the Rev. Pierluigi Maccalli, a member of the Society of African Missions religious order, was kidnapped in a part of Niger near the Burkina Faso border where a number of extremist groups are active. The *Fides* missionary news agency in Rome reported that the Reverend Maccalli had promoted initiatives to encourage an end to female genital mutilation, which had sparked some local opposition to him.

November 21: Defense Minister Kalla Moutari said Boko Haram was suspected of attacking the Foraco water well site in Toumour, 18 miles from the Nigerian border in Diffa Region, killing seven Nigerien workers at a French drilling company’s facility. The attackers arrived on horses and stole two pickup trucks before fleeing toward Nigeria. 18112102

November 24: Regional deputy officer Lamido

Harouna Moumouni said 24 attackers believed affiliated with Boko Haram abducted 15 girls in Blaharde in the morning and three other girls in Bague. 18112402

Nigeria

January 2: Gunmen killed 17 worshippers who had attended a church service in River State to celebrate the New Year, then shot people on the road before escaping. No one claimed credit.

January 3: A suicide bomber entered a mosque in Gamboru Ngala in Borno State, killing 10 people during early morning prayers. Boko Haram was suspected.

January 11: Military Joint Task Force spokesman Army Major Ibrahim Abdullahi announced that Niger Delta oil rebel leader Peregbakumo Oyawerikumo, alias Karowei, was killed in a gun battle after his gang members ambushed the military unit that was transporting him after his arrest in Delta State. Oyawerikumo had organized the kidnapping of four British missionaries and death of British aid worker Ian Squire and was behind robberies, the destruction of oil facilities, and the killings of military personnel.

January 15: Army operation commander Maj. Gen. Rogers Nicholas announced the release at the military barracks in Maiduguri of 244 Boko Haram suspects, including 118 adult males, 56 women, 19 teens and 51 children, who denounced their membership in the group. One woman said she was accused of being a cook for Boko Haram and was held by Nigerian authorities for about a year. The release was part of the Nigerian Armed Forces Remembrance Day.

Meanwhile, Boko Haram leader Abubakar Shekau said in a video that none of the 100 Chibok girls still held by Boko Haram would ever be found. He said his group last year “willingly” released 107 schoolgirls who refused to accept his creed. He told the parents of the kidnapped girls that they should consider his members as their sons-in-law because the girls are “happily” married to Boko Haram fighters. Some of the girls told their parents to join their faith because “our father Abubakar Shekau has married us off to our husbands and he also ensures that we are well taken care of.” The video showed military vehicles, armored tanks and a helicopter that Shekau claimed his men had destroyed the previous week.

January 16: During the night, gunmen kidnapped an American and a Canadian traveling south from Kafanchan in Kaduna State to Abuja and killed two police escorts around Kagarko. The hostages were investors setting up solar stations in villages around

Kafanchan. Global Affairs Canada spokesman John Babcock said it was aware of the kidnapping of two Canadian citizens, suggesting a possible dual nationality. Police and an anti-kidnapping squad rescued two Americans and two Canadians in the Kagarko local government area during the night of January 19 following a manhunt. One suspect was arrested. No ransom was paid. 18011601

January 17: *AP* reported that two suicide bombers hit a market in Maiduguri, killing a dozen people and injuring 48. The first bomber detonated her explosives inside the market; the second was outside, and killed only himself. *Al-Jazeera* reported that the bombing of Muna Garage, a camp for displaced people outside Maiduguri, involved four suicide bombers and injured 65. *News Agency of Nigeria* credited two male suicide bombers. Boko Haram was suspected.

February 7: Boko Haram leader Abubakar Shekau released a ten-minute video in which he claimed that he remained in control of the Sambisa forest, which the Nigerian military said it had wrested from the group. He asked, "If you have killed us, why are we still alive?" He called himself "invincible" but also mused, "I am tired of this calamity; it is better I die and go to rest in paradise."

February 10: Boko Haram freed three university lecturers and ten women it had kidnapped in separate raids in 2017. BH kidnapped the academics who were conducting oil prospect evaluations in the Lake Chad area on behalf of Nigerian National Petroleum; some of their colleagues were killed during the attack. BH kidnapped the ten women in a separate raid on a military and police convoy on the Damboa road near Maiduguri. Presidential spokesman Garba Shehu said, "Their release followed a series of negotiations as directed by President Muhammadu Buhari and was facilitated by the International Committee of the Red Cross."

February 16: Three female suicide bombers hit a crowded fish market in Konduga during the night, killing 20 people and wounding dozens.

February 18: Authorities announced that they would release hundreds of people accused of supporting Boko Haram, citing lack of evidence. Salihu Othman Isah, a special adviser to Nigeria's attorney general, announced that 475 suspects would be sent to rehabilitation instead of facing trial.

February 19: During the night, Boko Haram attacked Dapchi village in Yobe State. Fifty young women were reported missing from the Government Girls Secondary Science and Technical College. Three days later, Bashir Manzo, a student's parent, said that the parents had compiled a list of 101 missing girls. Some 926 students attend the school. One witness said that although the attackers wore

uniforms, he knew they were not soldiers because they had Arabic inscriptions on their vehicles. Among those missing was Aisha Muhammadu, 14. On February 25, parents released a list of the 105 hostages who were still missing. By February 26, frightened students were still staying away from the school. Most reports by then indicated that 110 girls had been kidnapped.

On March 21, 2018, the government announced that 104 of the 111 schoolgirls kidnapped in Nigeria in February had been freed from nine Boko Haram vehicles in the center of Dapchi at 2 a.m. A 14-year-old told reporters that five of the girls had died during the stampede from the hostage-taking. Khadija Grema, another freed girl, said a Christian classmate remained captive. "We were freed because we are Muslim girls and they didn't want us to suffer. That is why they released us." Rebecca Sharibu, mother of the remaining hostage said her daughter, Leah, 15, was prevented from boarding a vehicle with her classmates when she refused to convert to Islam. Minister of Information Lai Mohammed denied that any ransom was paid or prisoners freed. He credited "back-channel efforts and with the help of some friends of the country, and it was unconditional." A boy was also freed. Boko Haram said it had returned the girls "out of pity" and added "Don't ever put your daughters in school again." *AP* reported that Leah Sharibu was to be freed on March 24, according to her father, Nathan. *CNN* reported that as of May 15, her birthday, Leah was not freed.

AP reported on August 28, 2018, that authorities were investigating the authenticity of an audio recording in which Leah Sharibu, 15, a Christian schoolgirl abducted by Boko Haram from the Dapchi Government Science and Technical School in Nigeria's Yobe State in February, appealed to the government to intervene for her release. She apparently was the last remaining hostage of the 105 initially taken, held because she refused to renounce her Christianity. A photograph of Sharibu wearing a yellow hijab accompanied the recording.

February 26: The military announced that it had rescued more than 1,100 people, including women and children, who had been held by Boko Haram in different parts of the Lake Chad region near Cameroon. Operation spokesman Colonel Onyema Nwachukwu said 35 Boko Haram fighters were killed during the raids in the northern fringes of the Lake Chad islands and the Sambisa region. Soldiers seized a large arms cache.

March: *AP* reported on September 18, 2018, that President Muhammadu Buhari condemned Boko Haram's killing of Red Cross aid worker Saifura Hussaini Ahmed Khorsa, who was kidnapped in March 2018 along with two other health workers after an attack on a military facility in Rann. The

International Committee of the Red Cross announced on September 17, 2018, that she had been killed. Buhari deemed the killing “an act of extreme barbarism; utterly reprehensible and inhuman.” The group still held Khorsa’s two colleagues and a Christian girl, Leah Sharibu, who was seized in February 2018 during a mass abduction of schoolgirls in Dapchi.

AP reported on October 14, 2018, that the International Committee of the Red Cross called on the Islamic State West Africa Province, a Boko Haram affiliate of ISIS in Nigeria, to spare the lives of two female nurses, Hauwa Mohammed Liman and Alice Loksha, who were kidnapped in March in Rann. Liman, 24, midwifed at a government health-care center funded by the ICRC. Loksha was a nurse at a center supported by UNICEF. The terrorists killed a fellow hostage in September 2018. On September 16, 2018, the group had killed fellow hostage Sifura Hussaini Ahmed Khorsa, 25, a nurse, and warned that the other abductees would be killed in one month if its demands were not met. On October 15, Boko Haram killed Liman.

March 1: Boko Haram attacked a military base in Rann in Borno State with automatic weapons, rocket-propelled grenades and gun trucks, killing eleven people, including three members of the UN’s International Organization for Migration. Two of the dead IOM staffers were Ibrahim Lawan and Yawe Emmanuel, who were working in a camp for 55,000 internally displaced people who have fled conflict in the region. The third aid worker killed was a medical doctor consulting for UNICEF. Four soldiers and four mobile police also died, and three humanitarian workers were injured. 18030101

April 1: Army spokesman Colonel Onyema Nwachukwu said Boko Haram attacked the villages of Bille Shuwa and Alkaranti during the night, killing 15 people, including a soldier, and injuring 83. He said soldiers killed 13 BH terrorists, recovered weapons and detonated recovered suicide vests.

A 14-year-old Boko Haram insurgent, 14, surrendered to soldiers after escaping an enclave on the Lake Chad islands.

April 16: In the morning, gunmen in Kano killed a police officer and kidnapped a German engineer. 18041601

April 24: In the early morning, gunmen attacked a Catholic church in Ayar-Mbalom in Benue State, killing 15 people, including two priests, and burning down 50 houses.

April 26: Boko Haram attacked the Jidari Polo area of Maiduguri near the Federal High Court, killing two people and wounding seven others in a gun battle with authorities after they marched through the

neighborhood. Two female suicide attackers also were killed. One detonated her explosives after knocking on the door of a house. The *Voice of America* reported that President Muhammadu Buhari thanked “Troops of Operation Lafiya Dole.”

May 1: Two bombs exploded at a mosque in Mubi, killing 28 worshippers and wounding 56, 18 critically. Many of the victims were hit by the second bomb while trying to escape. The government blamed Boko Haram.

May 7: Military spokesman Brigadier General Texas Chukwu announced the rescue of more than 1,000 hostages, mostly women and children, held by Boko Haram in four villages in the Bama area of Borno State. Some men had been forced to become Boko Haram fighters.

June 20: Two female suicide bombers attacked a market in Maiduguri, injuring 15 people. Borno State police spokesman Edet Okon said soldiers shot an attacker.

June 21: The military offered a 5 million naira (\$13,850) reward for information on a suspected bomb-making factory in Maiduguri.

June 24: Nigeria’s presidency reported “deeply unfortunate killings across a number of communities in central Plateau State.” Police said 86 people died in clashes between mostly Muslim herders and Christian farmers. The independent *Channels Television* said at least 50 houses were destroyed. A curfew was announced for the communities of Jos South, Riyom and Barkin Ladi. On June 26, Simon Lalong, governor of Plateau State, said more than 200 people died in the weekend battles.

July 18: Borno State Police Commissioner Damian Chukwu announced that between July 4 and 9, authorities arrested 22 Boko Haram leaders and fighters behind the mass kidnapping of schoolgirls in Chibok in 2014 and more than 50 suicide bombings. Others confessed to ambushing security agents and being logistics suppliers.

July 23: A suicide bomber mixed in with early morning worshippers at a mosque in Konduga, killing seven and injuring seven. Boko Haram was suspected.

July 26: The International Crisis Group reported that fighting between Christian minority ethnic group farmers and Muslim Fulani herdsmen killed more people (more than 1,300) in 2018 than attacks by Boko Haram (250).

July 27: Colonel Onyema Nwachukwu, Deputy Director Army Public Relations, said gunmen in three vehicles, including gun trucks, attacked Monguno village in the Mairari area of Borno State. Soldiers and the air force killed 16 Boko Haram terrorists and captured the gun trucks and ammunition. One soldier and four civilians were injured.

August 3: *AFP* reported that Boko Haram members in ten trucks attacked Gasarwa village near Monguno garrison town during the night, setting homes on fire and killing two elderly men and three children.

September 2: Police spokesman in Plateau State Terna Tyopev said gunmen killed eleven people and wounded another eleven in a late evening attack in Lopandet Dwei Du village outside Jos, the capital of Plateau State in central Nigeria.

September 7: In the afternoon, Boko Haram overran Gudumbali, a key crossroads and military outpost in northeastern Nigeria. Half the town's population fled as the terrorists entered without resistance. The gunmen were believed to be loyal to Boko Haram faction lead Abu Mus'ab al-Barnawi that has the backing of ISIS.

October 18: Communal violence in Kasuwan Magani in Kaduna State killed 55 people. The state police commissioner said that more than 20 people were arrested.

October 31: The National Emergency Management Agency said that at 7 p.m., dozens of gunmen overpowered soldiers guarding the Dalori camp for displaced people in Maiduguri and conducted a two hour gun battle, killing eight people. Some witnesses said 13 people died. Boko Haram was suspected. Camp officials feared some of the women unaccounted for after the attack had been kidnapped.

November 18: *AP* reported on November 24, 2018 that Nigeria's military announced a major attack against it in Metele in which 44 soldiers were killed. The Islamic State West Africa Province, the largest ISIS-linked extremist group in Africa and a recent offshoot of Boko Haram, claimed responsibility.

November 29: President Muhammadu Buhari announced that Boko Haram had begun using drones for surveillance in northeastern Nigeria.

December 24: Boko Haram ambushed security forces on escort duty outside Damaturu in Yobe State, killing 14 military and police personnel.

December 25–26: Extremists seized Baga town and a key base for a multinational force fighting Boko Haram, raising their flag and sending many people fleeing. Reinforcements trying to retake the town were repelled, taking casualties. The attack began Christmas night; the gunmen seized the military base on December 26. Fighting in Baga continued into December 28. Major General Lamidi Adeosun, chief of army training and operations, said, "It's a ding-dong situation but we are engaging them. We are not in total control but the Boko Haram have not taken control of Baga, either. We are dealing and almost done with the situation." The Islamic State West Africa Province claimed to kill or wound "dozens" of soldiers.

Rwanda

December 9: President Paul Kagame said that two soldiers were killed when Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda rebels crossed into the country from Congo earlier in the week. Army spokesman Innocent Munyengango had said that Rwanda's forces fought and repelled the rebels, killing four. It was the first FDLR attack in two years. 18120901

December 16: Army spokesman Innocent Munyengango said that attackers set fire to three passenger vehicles in Nyamagabe district, which borders Burundi, killing two Rwandan civilians and injuring eight. The army chased the attackers into Nyungwe Forest, a mountain rainforest area that is home to wild chimpanzees.

Senegal

January 6: Separatist gunmen from the Movement of Democratic Forces of Casamance were suspected of killing 13 people and wounding seven others who were gathering firewood in the forest four miles outside Ziguinchor. Hours earlier, the government released two prisoners who were members of the group in negotiations mediated by the Community of Sant'Egidio.

July 19: The criminal court sentenced more than a dozen people to up to 20 years in prison for financing extremism and other offenses. Thirty-one people were tried after being arrested in 2015 counterterror operations that sought suspected Boko Haram terrorists. Fourteen people were acquitted. The prosecutor had asked for sentences of 30 years. Two male masterminds were sentenced to 20 years with forced labor. Others were sentenced to five to 15 years.

Somalia

January 2: Al-Shabaab's *Andalus* radio station announced that the group had executed in a public square in Kuntuwarey town in Lower Shabelle region five men accused of spying for the Kenyan, Ethiopian and Somali governments. The men were tied to poles and shot dead by masked gunmen.

January 5: The U.S. Department of State designated Abukar Ali Adan, al-Shabaab's deputy chief, a "global terrorist," thereby blocking any assets of his that are subject to U.S. jurisdiction and prohibiting U.S. citizens from making any transactions with him.

January 18: U.S. Africa Command said that a U.S. airstrike 31 miles northwest of Kismaayo killed four al-Shabaab members. No civilians were killed.

January 18–19: Somali and U.S. commandos raided

an al-Shabaab camp in Jame'o village in Middle Shabelle region during the night, killing four terrorists, including a local commander, and rescuing child conscripts.

February 19: U.S. African Command announced that a drone strike near Jilib in Middle Juba region killed three al-Shabaab "terrorists" and no civilians.

February 23: During the night, a suicide car bomber set off explosives near intelligence headquarters. A second car bomb went off near parliament's headquarters in Mogadishu, where security forces were battling gunmen thought trying to hit the presidential palace. Al-Shabaab claimed credit for the blasts that killed 21 and injured 20.

March 19: U.S. Africa Command announced its airstrike had killed two al-Shabaab fighters, wounded three, and destroyed a vehicle near Mubaarak in the Lower Shabelle region.

March 22: An al-Shabaab car bomb went off near the Weheliye Hotel on Mogadishu's Makka Almukarramah road, killing 14 and wounding ten, mostly passers-by and traders.

March 25: A car bomb exploded at a checkpoint near parliament headquarters in Mogadishu, killing four people, including two soldiers, and injuring ten others, many of them rickshaw drivers, near the interior ministry.

Hours earlier, a car bomb outside Mogadishu killed one person plus the driver after soldiers arrived to inspect the "suspicious" car which had become stuck on a sandy road in the Sinka Dheer area.

March 28: Three people were injured, one critically, by a bomb attached to their vehicle in a parking lot near the Mogadishu office of the International Committee of the Red Cross. The bomb went off after they left the vehicle. Al-Shabaab claimed credit. The ICRC said Somali ICRC staffer Abdulhafid Yusuf Ibrahim died of his injuries that evening. 18032801

April 1: Al-Shabaab attacked a base for African Union troops in Bulo-Marer, an agricultural town in Somalia's Lower Shabelle region, killing four Ugandan peacekeepers and injuring another four Ugandans. Two suicide car bombers hit the entrance to the base. Another 100 terrorists fired RPGs and machine guns at the base. Authorities killed 22 attackers. Al-Shabaab said it lost 14 fighters. 18040101

U.S. Africa Command announced that an airstrike near El-Bur killed five al-Shabaab members. Two Somali intelligence officials said that the airstrike targeted a vehicle carrying senior al-Shabaab officials and the dead included a woman.

April 5: U.S. Africa Command said its afternoon airstrike near Jilib town in Middle Juba region killed three al-Shabaab terrorists and no civilians.

April 6: A suicide car bomber hit an army checkpoint on the airport road in Mogadishu, injuring a soldier. The bomber apparently was heading to the international airport before he was stopped by soldiers.

A second car bomb went off near Mogadishu's Benadir junction after soldiers stopped the vehicle, firing on it as it tried to speed through a checkpoint. Three people, including a soldier, died.

April 12: Al-Shabaab set off a bomb at a packed football stadium in Barawe, killing five spectators and wounding eight others, several seriously.

April 28: An al-Shabaab suicide bomber targeted the commander of a special police force tasked with the security of the divided central city of Galkayo, killing three police officers, including the commander, and wounding three people. Galkayo's two parts are controlled by rival regional administrations, Puntland and Galmudug.

May 1: Two gunmen armed with pistols killed Maryan Abdullahi, a Somali employee with the World Health Organization, in Mogadishu's open-air Bakara market. No one claimed credit. 18050101

May 2: During the night, gunmen broke into the International Committee of the Red Cross compound in Mogadishu and kidnapped German nurse Sonja Nientiet and a local colleague, forcing them outside and into a waiting car. Authorities arrested ten security guards who did not prevent the abduction. The kidnappers abandoned their car near the scene. The Somali colleague escaped after a car tire blew out. Abdulaziz Hildhiban, spokesman for Somalia's internal security ministry, said authorities suspected "a disgruntled former employee." Al-Shabaab was also suspected. 18050201

May 9: Al-Shabaab announced its masked men had stoned to death Shukri Abdullahi Warsame, 30, a woman convicted in Sablale town in Lower Shabelle region of marrying eleven men. A self-proclaimed judge in an ad hoc court said she confessed to having secretly married eleven men in a row without seeking a divorce.

Al-Shabaab was suspected when a suicide bomber set off his explosives vest in a market in Wanlaweyn, killing ten people and wounding 15. Most of the victims were civilians.

During the night, U.S. and Somali commandoes raided an al-Shabaab hideout and coordination center in a village in Lower Shabelle region, seizing three senior commanders. Village elder Moalim Ahmed Nur said five people thought to be banana farmers were killed and several others were captured.

June 1: U.S. Africa Command announced that its airstrike 30 miles southwest of Mogadishu killed 12 al-Shabab terrorists.

June 3: U.S. Africa Command announced that its airstrike killed 27 al-Shabaab terrorists 26 miles southwest of Bosaso, the commercial capital of the semiautonomous Puntland State. No civilians were killed.

June 8: *NBC News*, *AP*, and the *Washington Post* reported that a U.S. Special Operations soldier was killed and four Americans and one “partner force member” wounded in a mortar and small-arms attack by al-Shabaab in Jubaland in the afternoon. The Pentagon later identified the deceased soldier as Staff Sergeant Alexander W. Conrad, 26, of Chandler, Arizona, assigned to 1st Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. 18060801

July 7: In the morning, an al-Shabaab suicide car bomber set off his explosives at the gates of the Interior Ministry headquarters in Mogadishu. Terrorists then ran into the compound, killing nine people and wounding 13. Security forces killed the three terrorists during a two-hour gun battle. Some staffers died or were injured while jumping from windows while trying to escape.

July 14: At midday, a suicide car bomb went off near a checkpoint close to the entrance to the Presidential palace in Mogadishu. A second car bomb exploded nearby. Security forces shot dead three al-Shabaab attackers wearing soldiers’ uniforms. Two other people were killed. Al-Shabaab said it was conducting a “major operation” around the palace and nearby SYL Hotel.

July 23: Soldiers repulsed an al-Shabaab attack on a military base in Sanguni. Troops spotted a car bomb, detonated it, then exchanged fire with ten attackers on foot, killing them. Al-Shabaab claimed its fighters entered the base and killed 27 soldiers.

August 2: U.S. Africa Command announced that its 19th airstrike of the year against al-Shabaab killed four terrorists.

August 5: Police Colonel Ahmed Ali said an al-Shabaab suicide car bomber killed four people, including two soldiers, and injured ten people near the gate of a military base in Afgoye near the former national water agency’s offices.

In the evening, a car bomb went off at a restaurant near a security checkpoint and immigration headquarters in Mogadishu, killing two people and injuring four.

August 21: U.S. Africa Command announced that an airstrike killed two al-Shabaab terrorists 28 miles northeast of Kismaayo.

August 27: U.S. Africa Command announced that an airstrike killed three al-Shabaab terrorists.

September 2: *NPR* and *AP* reported that an al-Shabaab car bomb hit a checkpoint outside Howlwadag district government building in Mogadishu

after being stopped by security forces, killing six people, including two children, destroying local residences, and tearing the roof off a mosque. The three soldiers who stopped the truck were killed, as were three civilians. Fourteen people, including six children, need intensive care. Among the wounded was deputy district commissioner Ibrah Hassan Matan. Many victims were students at a nearby madrassa.

September 10: An al-Shabaab suicide car bomber hit a gate of Hodan district’s headquarters in Mogadishu, killing four people and wounding seven, most of them district workers and soldiers.

September 11: *Military Times* reported that the United States conducted an airstrike against al-Shabaab in Mubaraak village after U.S. and partner troops came under attack. Two al-Shabaab gunmen were killed and one was wounded. One Somali partner force member was killed during the operation and two others were wounded.

September 19: An overnight airstrike hit an al-Shabaab training school in Sakow in Middle Juba region, killing or wounding several senior al-Shabaab officials. Local officials claimed the airstrike targeted longtime commander Hassan Yaqub. U.S. Africa Command said it had not carried out a strike there since September 11. During the weekend, Ethiopia’s state-affiliated *Fana* Broadcasting Corporate reported that Ethiopia’s air force killed about 70 al-Shabaab members in a rare airstrike. Al-Shabaab’s *Shahada News Agency* said the drone attack destroyed Sakow’s general hospital.

September 21: U.S. Africom announced that a U.S. military airstrike killed 18 al-Shabaab members after U.S. and local forces on the ground came under attack 30 miles northwest of Kismayo in southern Somalia. No U.S. or Somali forces were killed or injured. The self-defense airstrike was carried out after extremists were “observed maneuvering on a combined patrol.” Somali forces with small arms killed two other al-Shabaab extremists.

October 1: U.S. Africa Command said it conducted an airstrike that killed nine al-Shabaab terrorists 24 miles northeast of Kismayo after its fighters attacked Somali government forces. Another terrorist was wounded.

October 5: The government announced that al-Shabaab defector Mukhtar Robow was not eligible to run for the regional presidency of the South West region because he was still under sanctions. He surrendered to the government in 2017 after the United States cancelled a \$5 million reward offered for his capture. He remained under U.S. sanctions imposed against him in 2008 when he was identified as a “specially designated global terrorist.”

October 9: Al-Shabaab announced on its *Andalus*

radio station that it executed five men accused of spying for U.S., British and Somali intelligence agencies. The killings were carried out in a public square in Jilib in Middle Jubba region in the night. The men were tied to poles and shot by a firing squad.

October 12: U.S. Africa Command announced on October 16 that its October 12 airstrike near the al-Shabaab-controlled community of Harardere in Mudug Province killed about 60 fighters and destroyed a training camp. Somalia intelligence officials said two unmanned drones killed more than 75, including several trainees who were being prepared to carry out suicide bombings on Somali and African Union bases while others were foot soldiers meant for complex attacks across central and southern Somalia.

October 13: A suicide bomber set off explosives strapped around his waist in the middle of a restaurant in Baidoa. A grenade went off in a nearby hotel. The two explosions killed 16 and wounded more than 30 people. Al-Shabaab claimed credit on *Radio Andalus*, saying one bomb targeted a hotel owned by a former Somali minister, Mohamed Aden Fargeti, one of several candidates running for the presidency of the region in November's election.

October 14: U.S. Africa Command said an airstrike killed four al-Shabaab extremists after "partner forces came under small arms fire" near Araara in Lower Juba region.

October 21: The African Union said al-Shabaab "botched" an attack on a forward operating base; seven al-Shabaab fighters died.

October 22: AP reported on October 25 that the African Union force said it had killed a "chief finance controller" for al-Shabaab in an ambush in Bariire. He headed tax collection in the Lower Shabelle region.

October 23: Somali intelligence officials said that the previous week, the body of Mahad Moalim, deputy leader of an ISIS-linked group based in northern Somalia, was found near a Mogadishu beach. He had been kidnapped days earlier while secretly visiting the city. His relatives accused rival deputies who were jockeying for position during the illness of the group's leader, Abdiqadir Mumin, an elderly British extremist who founded the group that is said to have several dozen fighters. In February 2018, the United States declared Moalim a "specially designated global terrorist," saying he was responsible for facilitating shipments of weapons and fighters across the Gulf of Aden from Yemen. The group claimed attacks against Somali authorities and other targets in the northern Puntland region, where it is based, and in and outside Mogadishu.

October 25: The national security agency an-

nounced that an unnamed senior al-Shabaab official in charge of collecting revenue was killed in a U.S. airstrike in Kunyo Barrow, north of Kismayo.

November 9: At 4 p.m., al-Shabaab set off three car bombs outside the Sahafi Hotel, across the street from the Somali Police Force's Criminal Investigations Department in Mogadishu, killing 53 people and injuring more than 100. At least two suicide bombers died. One car bomb exploded next to a minibus. Somali security forces shot dead four gunmen who tried to storm through a hole blown into the hotel's wall. A fourth bomb went off as medics attempted to care for victims. The first bomb went off at the Sahafi Hotel; the second on a street between the CID and the hotel; and a third went off on a street behind the hotel. Authorities said the attackers were wearing police uniforms. *Reuters* reported that AS spokesman Abdiasisi Abu Musab said the hotel was targeted because "it acts as a government base. Government officials and security forces are always in the hotel."

The dead included the hotel's manager, Abdifatah Abdirashid, who took over the hotel after his father died in an AS attack on the building in 2015. Hussein Nur, a shopkeeper, suffered light shrapnel injuries on his right hand. A former government official, a district police chief, and a journalist were also wounded. Police announced that 52 Somali officials were rescued from the scene of the attack and from a nearby hotel.

November 19: CNN reported that US Africa Command said two of its drone airstrikes killed 37 al-Shabaab terrorists in the vicinity of Debatscile. One strike on an al-Shabaab camp killed 27 terrorists; a second killed ten.

November 20: AP reported that U.S. Africa Command said that an airstrike in Quy Cad in the Mudug region killed seven al-Shabaab terrorists.

November 21: U.S. Africa Command announced that two air strikes killed six al-Shabaab terrorists and destroyed a weapons cache near Harardere.

November 26: A car bomb went off at a busy junction in Mogadishu's Wadajir district, killing six people and injuring another 15. Observers suggested that attack was aimed at soldiers gathering there.

Two al-Shabaab suicide bombers set off their explosives at the Galkayo residence of Islamic cleric Sheikh Abdiweli Ali Elmi, killing him and 17 followers for playing music in their religious ceremonies. The residence serves as a Sufi shrine. After the bombs went off, four gunmen stormed the building. Twenty people were injured. Authorities responded, killing three terrorists and capturing one.

November 27: U.S. Africa Command said an airstrike killed three al-Shabaab terrorists "in the

vicinity of Quy Cad near Debatscile” in the Mudug region.

November 30: U.S. Africa Command said its airstrike near Lebede in the Bay region killed nine al-Shabaab members.

December 4: A remotely detonated bomb hidden in his car severely wounded journalist and media rights activist Ismail Sheikh Khalif in Mogadishu’s Waberi district. No one claimed credit.

December 5: Somali intelligence officials said Somali commandos backed by U.S. forces raided two al-Shabaab checkpoints at which the extremists extort money from commercial vehicles in Awdheghe, a farming village in Lower Shabelle region, killing several fighters.

The Somali officials also said that two overnight U.S. airstrikes in the area destroyed an explosives-laden minibus that was prepared for a complex attack on an unspecified location.

December 8: U.S. Africa Command said a “self-defense airstrike” killed four al-Shabaab members outside Basra, near Mogadishu, after partner forces were attacked.

December 13: Ethiopian troops that are part of the African Union forces supporting the Somali government arrested former al-Shabaab deputy chief Sheikh Mukhtar Robow, previously al-Shabaab’s spokesman and now a candidate in a regional election. The arrest sparked violent protests in which four people, including an Ethiopian soldier, were killed. The al-Shabaab defector was arrested at the regional president’s residence in Baidoa and flown to Mogadishu. Somali police accompanied Ethiopian soldiers in the arrest.

December 15: U.S. Africa Command said its airstrike killed eight al-Shabaab members near Gandarshe, a coastal community south of Mogadishu.

December 15–16: AP and CNN quoted U.S. Africa Command as saying that it conducted six airstrikes over the weekend near Gandarshe. Operations on December 15 killed 34 al-Shabaab terrorists, while a follow-up air raid the next day killed another 28. AFRICOM said the airstrikes were conducted in coordination with the Federal Government of Somalia to “prevent terrorists from using remote areas as a safe haven to plot, direct, inspire and recruit for future attacks.” The Command said al-Shabaab “uses portions of southern and central Somalia to plot and direct terror attacks, steal humanitarian aid, extort local populace to fund its operations, and shelter radical terrorists.”

December 19: U.S. Africa Command said a pair of airstrikes killed eleven al-Shabaab terrorists in self-defense after al-Shabaab fighters attacked forces with the Somali military and the African Union

peacekeeping mission. AFRICOM said al-Shabaab had been using the Beled Amin South area to plan attacks on the capital.

December 22: An al-Shabaab car bomb went off at a military checkpoint near the rear entrance of the presidential palace in Mogadishu, killing 16 people, among them soldiers and three staffers from the London-based *Universal TV* station, including prominent journalist Awil Dahir Salad, his two security guards and his driver, and wounding more than 20 others, including a lawmaker and a deputy mayor of Mogadishu. The *Washington Post* reported that Salad had fled Somalia in 2005, fearing he could be targeted as a journalist. Upon his return, he hosted a popular talk show.

A second al-Shabaab suicide car bomb went off nearby, apparently targeting those heading to work at the underground Godka Jilaow prison run by the country’s intelligence service.

By December 24, the death toll hit 26 as people initially wounded died from their injuries. The dead included seven soldiers who were escorting a government official through a checkpoint on their way to the presidential palace.

South Africa

May 10: SABC and eNCA reported that three attackers entered the Imam Hussein mosque in Verulam, Durban, during midday prayers, stabbed three people and slit their throats, set the mosque on fire, and fled. One of the victims died en route to the hospital; the others were in critical condition. Police found a knife at the scene. South African Police Hawks spokesman Simphiwe Mhlongo said the unit was investigating an “element of extremism.” Imam Ali Nchinyane told *EWN*, “They definitely had a religious motive.... These people, they were not robbers.... They strictly wanted to kill us.” One attacker said, “I will kill you.” Nchinyane said, “If I did not fight back I would have been dead.”

June 14: A man fatally stabbed two people and wounded several others at the Malmesbury Mosque in Western Cape Province near Cape Town before police shot and killed the attacker. He was believed to be in his thirties. Police announced that “He ignored the calls [to surrender] and tried to attack police. He was shot and killed in the process.” Suad Bassa, son of Ismail Bassa, told *News24* that the attacker injured his brother when they confronted him.

South Sudan

April 7–8: The United Nations announced that two aid workers were killed in separate attacks over the weekend. Gunmen fired at a “clearly marked” aid

vehicle near Bentiu town in Unity State, killing a local worker with the Hope Restoration organization. A local worker with the UNIDO organization was killed near Leer town in Unity State. 18040702

April 25: *UPI* reported that the U.N. announced that gunmen kidnapped ten South Sudan aid workers in Yei as the workers were en route from Yei to Tore as part of an aid convoy. The U.N. said, "We are deeply concerned about the whereabouts of these humanitarian workers and are urgently seeking information about their well-being. These individuals, U.N. and [non-governmental organization] staff, are here to help the people of South Sudan and should not be targeted. Our colleagues must be released without condition so that their work can continue." One hostage was from the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, two from the U.N. International Children's Fund, one from the South Sudanese Development Organization, two from South Sudanese NGO Across, three from Plan International and one from Action Africa Help. 18042501

Tanzania

October 11: The *Telegraph*, *AFP*, and *CNN* reported that at 6:30 a.m., two masked gunmen fired into the air, broke into a Dar es Salaam spa hotel, and kidnapped Mohamed Dewji, 43, Tanzania's only billionaire, Africa's youngest billionaire and Africa's 17th richest man, shortly after arriving at the gym of the Colosseum Hotel Oyster Bay. The kidnappers used a gate that apparently was intentionally left unlocked. They threw him into a car and fled. Police detained three foreigners in the kidnapping of "Mo." Regional governor Paul Makonda, a close ally of President John Magufuli, told reporters that Dewji was kidnapped "by whites travelling in two vehicles." Witnesses outside the hotel said only one vehicle was involved; none mentioned the race of the assailants. An Uber driver told a Tanzanian newspaper, "We were approaching the area when, suddenly, in front of us, four people wearing masks alighted from a small vehicle and shot once in the air.... They entered the hotel and came out with a person whom I identified as Mo." Regional authorities said that two white men were seen on surveillance video. The Dar es Salaam police chief initially said Dewji, chief executive of the METL Group, had been rescued, but later retracted the statement.

Dewji had served as a ruling party MP until 2015. He made \$1.3 billion by buying failing state-owned factories on the cheap during a wave of privatizations between 2003 and 2005. He later took over one of Tanzania's biggest football clubs. Dewji is married with three children. He joined The Giving Pledge initiative, led by Bill Gates and Warren Buffett, to give at least half his fortune to charity.

Dewji was reported free on October 20. He told reporters, "I thank Allah that I have returned home safely." Dar es Salaam Regional Police Chief Lazaro Mambosasa said, "We got information that the abductors used the same car that was used to seize him at the Colosseum Hotel and dumped him at gymkhana grounds.... We found him there physically fit, and we suspect that the abductors are South Africans because he said they were communicating in one of the vernaculars from that country." Simon Sirro, the police inspector general, said that the captors had demanded a ransom but did not specify the amount or say whether it was paid. The family had offered a reward of 1 billion Tanzanian shillings (\$440,000) for information leading to his release, according to the *New York Times* and *Reuters*. Police seized the vehicle along with an AK-47 assault rifle, two pistols and several rounds of ammunition. The captors tried to burn the vehicle after dropping off Dewji. Dewji had bruised hands and feet from being tied up. Police took into custody a dozen suspects, including the hotel's security manager.

Zimbabwe

June 23: *NPR* and *AP* reported that an explosive went off at the White City Stadium in Bulawayo where President Emmerson Mnangagwa, 75, had finished speaking at a campaign rally and was leaving the podium. He said the device went off inches away. Authorities said he was not hurt in the apparent assassination attempt. The *Herald* newspaper reported that eight people, including security personnel, were injured; *AP* said the tally was 49. Vice President Kembo Mohadi suffered a leg injury. Second Vice President and former military commander Constantino Chiwenga, who called the attack "terrorism," had facial bruises. Chiwenga's wife was hospitalized. The *New York Times* reported that another minister apparently sustained minor injuries. On June 27, Mnangagwa told the *BBC* he suspected that a G40 political faction supporting former first lady Grace Mugabe was responsible.

ASIA

Armenia

April 21: Authorities arrested more than 70 people, including two people with opposition connections suspected of building bombs, in Yerevan.

Azerbaijan

July 3: The Interior Ministry said Elmar Veliyev, mayor of Ganja, Azerbaijan's second-largest city, was shot and wounded in a nighttime attack that also wounded his bodyguard outside his office. Police arrested the gunman.

July 10: Two senior police officers were stabbed to death while confronting about 200 demonstrators in Ganja, where police had arrested a man accused of attacking the local mayor. Police arrested a suspect the next day, saying he belonged to a jihadi group and was plotting a coup. On July 13, a suspect in the stabbing was killed resisting arrest in a morning raid. President Ilham Aliyev called the events a terrorist attack.

Bangladesh

January 12: The Rapid Action Battalion raided the five-storey Ruby Villa apartment building in Dhaka's Tejgaon area near the office of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, killing three suspected jihadis. Police found explosives. The suspects threw grenades, injuring two battalion members.

August 4: *NBC News* and *Newsweek* reported that gunmen, some on motorcycles, attacked a convoy carrying U.S. Ambassador Marcia Bernicat and her team in the Mohammadpur district of Dhaka during the evening. No one was hurt but two vehicles were damaged. Thousands of students were protesting unsafe traffic conditions. 18080401

Cambodia

April 12: The U.S. Embassy issued a security alert over an alleged plot to set off a bomb around Wat

Phnom, a temple in Phnom Penh said by Cambodian officials and media to be the target of a plot by the Khmer National Liberation Front, an overseas anti-government group. The note advised, "Exercise caution in areas with large crowds. If you see an unattended object, leave the area immediately. Monitor local media for updates. Be aware of your surroundings." Cambodia's Interior Ministry and a pro-government newspaper said Siem Reap, the site of the Angkor temple complex, was also a target. The independent *Phnom Penh Post* newspaper quoted Sam Serey, Denmark-based head of the Khmer National Liberation Front, as denying the plot.

China

April 15: A male passenger armed with a pen held a flight attendant hostage and diverted Air China Flight 1350 from its route to Beijing, forcing it to land in Zhengzhou at 10 a.m. All passengers and crew made it safely off the plane, which had taken off at 8:40 a.m. from Changsha in Hunan Province and was scheduled to land in Beijing at 11 a.m. The Civil Aviation Authority of China said that "the matter was successfully handled" by 1:17 p.m. Police in Zhengzhou's Henan Province said that the man had a history of mental illness and suffered an unspecified "sudden" psychological disorder when he grabbed the flight attendant. It identified him as Xu, 41, from Anhua County in Hunan. Police arrested him at about 1 p.m. A passenger told the *Xiaoxiang Morning Herald* that the disturbance occurred in the first or business class cabins, but that the curtains separating those sections from economy class were pulled tightly shut.

July 26: At 1 p.m., a man, 26, set off a homemade bomb outside the U.S. Embassy in a public area at the embassy's southeast corner in Beijing, injuring only himself. People were waiting to apply for visas. Police detained the suspect, whom they said was from Tongliao, Inner Mongolia, and whose last name was Jiang. The explosion hurt his hand. 18072601

September 12: Yang Zanyun, 54, from Hengdong County in Hunan Province, crashed his red SUV into a crowd at a public square in the county at 7:30 p.m., killing eleven and injuring 44 people. He then jumped out of the vehicle and stabbed several people with a dagger and a shovel, according to *Rednet*, the state media outlet in Hunan Province. The *Beijing Youth Daily*, a publication of the ruling Communist Party's youth league, said that police arrested Yang and were investigating the crash; there was no mention of terrorism or other motive. Yang had served several prison sentences for crimes, including drug trafficking, theft, arson and assault. The Hengyang city government said he acted alone and sought to "get revenge on society."

October 6: A spokesman for the Beilun district government in Ningbo in Zhejiang Province said that during the night, a knife-wielding man, Wang, apparently enraged by a "personal conflict," drove a vehicle into a crowd of pedestrians, killing two people and wounding 16.

October 26: A woman, Liu, 39, with a kitchen knife injured 14 children at the Xinshiji (also reported as Yudong New Century) Kindergarten in Chongqing's suburbs at 9:30 a.m. as the children were returning to classes from their morning exercises. Staff and school security guards took her into custody. Her motive was unknown. The victims were treated at the city's Banan People's Hospital.

November 22: At noon, a car crashed into a crowd of children outside a primary school in the coastal city of Huludao in Jianchang County in Liaoning Province, killing five people and injuring 19. The driver was taken into custody after the crash. State broadcaster CCTV reported all five dead and 16 of the injured were children, most of them between five and seven years old. Security camera footage showed the car change lanes and swerve into children who were crossing the street in front of their school. The next day, Jianchang County authorities said the suspect, Han, 29, was an introvert who wanted to kill himself because of a dispute with his wife. He deliberately targeted the crowd outside the school.

December 25: *Beijing News* and *Xinhua* reported that in the afternoon, an unemployed man, 48, with a knife hijacked a bus and crashed it into pedestrians in Longyan in Fujian Province, killing eight people and injuring 22 before being captured by six police officers who wrestled him to the ground. *Xinhua* said that the man had had a conflict earlier in the day with an official of a neighborhood committee with whom he and long been at odds.

India

January 6: The English-language *Greater Kashmir* newspaper reported that Jaish-e-Mohammed re-

motely detonated a bomb on a street in Sopore in disputed Kashmir, killing four police who were on patrol.

February 6: Police officer Ghulam Hasan Bhatt said that gunmen shot at Indian police officers and freed a Pakistani Lashkar-e-Taiba jihadi, who was arrested by police in 2015, as he was being transported to a hospital for a medical checkup in the Indian portion of Kashmir. Two police officers died of their injuries in Srinagar. The attackers and the prisoner escaped.

February 10–11: At dawn, three gunmen fired inside the Sunjuwan army camp in Indian-held Kashmir on the outskirts of Jammu, killing two soldiers and injuring three others. Shooting continued for 48 hours, leaving five soldiers and a civilian dead and eleven people injured. On February 12, Indian Defense Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said the Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammed was responsible and that Islamabad "would pay for this misadventure." Government troops killed two gunmen on February 13.

March 2: Senior police officer D.M. Awasthy said police raided a forest hideout in the Bijapur district of Chhattisgarh State, killing a dozen Maoist rebels, including six women. Police found twelve bodies and some arms and ammunition. One police officer died in the joint operation by Chhattisgarh State Police and the Greyhounds, a special police force in neighboring Telangana State created to fight the rebels. Among the dead was a key Maoist leader, Haribhushan, the secretary of the outlawed Communist Party of India (Maoist) who had tried to strengthen the group in Telangana state. Haribhushan had faced charges of murder and attempted murder; the government had offered a reward of 3 million rupees (\$46,000) to anyone providing information leading to his arrest.

March 12: Soldiers killed three Kashmiri rebels, including Easa Fazili, in a morning clash following a raid on cluster of homes in a village in southern Anantnag district. Two slain local rebels were engineering students.

March 20–21: When government forces cordoned off a remote forested village in the mountains of northwestern Kupwara region in disputed Kashmir during a hunt for militants, a gun battle killed five Indian government forces and five suspected militants. Three insurgents were killed overnight and two others were killed on March 21. Government deaths included two counterinsurgency police and three army soldiers. Three police officials and a soldier were wounded. No rebel group claimed credit.

April 22: Authorities killed 14 Maoist Naxalite rebels in a raid on their hideout in a forested area in Gadchilori district in Maharashtra State. No police were injured.

April 24: In the early morning, a gun battle broke out between counterinsurgency police and Kashmiri rebels in a forest in the Tral area of Kashmir. A counterinsurgency police official and a soldier died in the initial clash. After reinforcements arrived, a gunman was killed.

Government troops in Maharashtra State's Gadchiroli area killed six Maoist rebels in a morning gun battle.

April 27: The *Press Trust of India* reported that security forces hit Maoist rebels meeting in a forest hideout in Bijapur district in Chhattisgarh State, killing seven, including men and women. At least seven Maoist rebels were killed in the second major operation of the week by security forces against their strongholds in central and western India, police said.

April 30: During the night, three suspected insurgents killed three men, including Mohammad Asgar, ranging in age from 20 to 25, in Baramulla in Indian-controlled Kashmir. Police blamed Lashkar-e-Taiba. Local residents said rebels had warned the trio several times to end contacts with the military.

May 5: Troops killed three suspected rebels in a gun battle in Srinagar.

May 6: Government forces killed five rebels, including a senior rebel commander and a University of Kashmir assistant professor of sociology, Mohammed Rafi Bhat, who formally joined the rebels two days earlier, in fighting in Shopian in Indian-controlled Kashmir. A policeman and a soldier were wounded.

May 8: During the night, a grenade exploded outside the office of the paramilitary Assam Rifles in Imphal in Manipur State, injuring one soldier. No one claimed credit.

May 9: A bomb exploded at a Border Security Force post near the residence of the top elected official in Manipur State, killing two paramilitary soldiers and wounding two civilians. No one claimed responsibility.

May 20: Maoist Naxalite rebels set off a land mine as a police vehicle rolled over it in the Dantewada district of Chhattisgarh State, killing six police officials and critically injuring another. The police were escorting a truck carrying material to a road construction site in a forest.

June 7: Gunmen attacked an Indian patrol in the forested northwestern Keran sector of Indian-controlled Kashmir from Pakistan, killing a soldier and wounding another.

June 10: In the morning, gunmen snuck into the forested northwestern Keran sector of Indian-controlled Kashmir from Pakistan and initiated a gun battle that killed six rebels.

June 14: Gunmen on a motorbike shot to death senior journalist Syed Shujaat Bukhari and his two bodyguards in their car as he left his office in Srinagar in Indian-controlled Kashmir. Three soldiers were injured. Bukhari was a group editor for three daily newspapers and a weekly, including the English-language daily *Rising Kashmir*. On November 28, 2018, *AP* reported that a joint Indian military-police team shot to death Naveed Jatt, an alleged Pakistani terrorist accused in attack, and an accomplice during a gunfight in central Kashmir's Badgam district.

June 17: National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Khaplang) separatists claimed responsibility for an attack near Aboi village with automatic weapons and hand grenades on a passing security convoy in India's remote northeast that killed four Indian paramilitary soldiers. Isak Sumi, the group's spokesman, said its offensive aimed "to sanitize the land against the illegal deployment of occupational Indian forces." The next day, the Ulfa (Independent) separatist group said it had worked with the Naga militants to carry out the attack.

July 13: Three gunmen in a car shot at Indian paramilitary soldiers on patrol at a marketplace in Achabal in Indian-controlled Kashmir, killing two and wounding a Central Reserve Police Force soldier and a civilian passerby.

July 15: Maoist Naxalite rebels ambushed soldiers returning from a counterinsurgency operation in a forested area in the Kanker district of Chhattisgarh State, killing two and wounding a third.

July 19: In a two-hour morning clash in a forest in Bijapur district in Chhattisgarh State after security forces surrounded a Naxalite rebel hideout, authorities killed eight Maoist insurgents, including four women. Security forces found rifles and bullet magazines. No security forces were harmed.

July 21: Suspected rebels kidnapped and killed a police official in Khudwani.

July 22: In the early morning, counterinsurgency police and soldiers raided a cluster of homes in Khudwani village on a tip that rebels were hiding there. In an ensuing gun battle, troops killed three militants. No soldiers were injured.

July 24: Gunmen on a motorbike shot at soldiers in Srinagar, Kashmir, killing a paramilitary soldier and wounding two others. No one claimed credit.

July 25: In the morning, soldiers raided a suspected rebel hideout in Anantnag, Kashmir, killing two rebels.

August 29: Rebels ambushed police officials visiting a workshop to get a police vehicle repaired in Shopian in Kashmir, killing four. No one claimed credit.

Two Kashmiri rebels were killed in a gunfight with government forces conducting a raid on a rebel hideout in Anantnag, triggering clashes in which 40 people were injured. Two local rebels, including a commander, were killed.

September 15: In the morning, soldiers killed five Hizbul Mujahideen rebels in fighting in Qazigund in Indian-controlled Kashmir. Troops blasted at least one residential house with explosives.

September 21: Two dozen anti-government rebels attacked more than a dozen homes of police officers in two southern villages near Shopian in Kashmir, kidnapping three of them. The trio's bullet-riddled bodies were found on September 21. They freed a fourth person, a former officer who had heeded the group's previous day's call for police to leave the service. Riyaz Naikoo, operations commander of Kashmir's largest rebel group Hizb-ul-Mujahideen, claimed credit and demanded the release of family members of all militants in police custody within three days. Police quietly released Naikoo's father and some other relatives of militants, who later set free eleven people they had earlier kidnapped. Naikoo released an audio in which he said, "You forced us to kidnap your kin to make you feel what we feel when police harass our families. How a mother would be feeling when her son is taken away. We also abducted them to let you know that we are capable of reaching them as well."

September 23: Visakhapatnam district police superintendent Rahul Dev Sharma said 40 Maoist insurgents fatally shot Kidari Sarveshwara Rao, an Andhra Pradesh state assembly member from the ruling Telugu Desam party, who was visiting a rural village in southern India. Former lawmaker Siveri Soma was also killed.

Five gunmen and a soldier died in a clash near the highly militarized de facto frontier that divides Kashmir between India and Pakistan. Gunmen crossed from Pakistani-controlled Kashmir into the Indian-held portion in northwestern Tangdhar sector.

October 2: Barrackpore Police Commissioner Rajesh Kumar Singh said a bomb exploded in the morning in suburban Kolkata in West Bengal State, killing a boy, 7, and wounding nine other people outside a shop closed on the national Mahatma Gandhi birthday holiday. The impact of the blast ripped through the shop's iron shutters. Local Trinamul Congress Leader Panchu Gopal Roy claimed to be the target of the explosion.

October 5: Rebel gunmen were suspected of killing two activists affiliated with a pro-India Kashmiri National Conference political group outside a meat shop in Srinagar and wounding another activist. No rebel group claimed responsibility.

October 11: In a morning raid by Indian troops on a village in the Handwara area, a Kashmiri scholar-turned rebel leader and his colleague were killed. *Greater Kashmir* reported that senior police officer Muneer Khan said one of the dead was identified by his parents as top rebel leader Manan Wani, who was pursuing a doctorate in geology at an Indian university but abandoned his research in January to join the Hizbul Mujahideen, Kashmir's largest rebel group.

Gunmen killed a prominent separatist activist in the Shopian area.

October 13: A bomb exploded outside the office of the district magistrate in a busy shopping district in the capital of Assam State, hospitalizing four people. Senior police officer Harmeet Singh said it was unclear whether the official was the target. Paresh Baruah, leader of the United Liberation Front of Assam (Independent), phoned local television channels to claim responsibility.

October 21: Indian authorities raiding a rebel hideout killed three suspected rebels in a clash that lasted for several hours in Kashmir's Kulgam area. Two soldiers were injured. Five civilians died and three were injured in an explosion at the site after the fighting was over.

October 24: Indian forces, acting on a tip that militants were hiding in a neighborhood in Srinagar, Kashmir, killed two rebels in a gun battle that injured four soldiers and two counterinsurgency policemen. Residents claimed that Indian troops burned a civilian home where the rebels took refuge. Demonstrators threw stones at police and paramilitary soldiers, who fired warning shots, shotgun pellets and tear gas, injuring six protestors.

October 25: A young man asked to take a selfie with Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, chief of the YSR Congress party, who was waiting to board a flight at the airport in Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh State. The youth took out a sharp object and attacked him, cutting Reddy in the arm. Reddy's security guards grabbed the attacker and handed him over to police. Police suggested a political rivalry was the motive. Reddy quit the Indian National Congress Party and formed a regional group in 2010. Reddy's father was a Congress party leader; he died in a 2009 helicopter crash.

Government forces battled Kashmiri rebels at two locations, killing six rebels. One soldier was wounded.

During the night, Kashmiri rebels attacked an army camp in the Tral area, killing a soldier and wounding another.

October 26: Indian troops raided a village in Sopore, Kashmir, sparking a gun battle that killed two rebels and a soldier.

October 27: The *Press Trust of India* news agency reported that Maoist Naxalite rebels set off a land mine under an armed forces vehicle on patrol near its camp in Bijapur district in Chhattisgarh State, killing four Indian paramilitary soldiers and wounding two others.

October 30: Maoist Naxalite rebels killed a cameraman working for the state-run *Doordarshan* television channel and two policemen in an ambush in Chhattisgarh State's Dantewada district. Two other officers were wounded. The cameraman was riding on the back of a motorbike driven by a police officer who was targeted in the attack along with other police.

November 8: *New Delhi Television* reported that Maoist Naxalite rebels blew up a bus carrying civilians and paramilitary soldiers, killing four civilians and a paramilitary soldier and hospitalizing two other soldiers in the Dantewada district of Chhattisgarh State, where legislative elections were to be held the next week.

November 11: Maoist Naxalite rebels set off a bomb and exchanged gunfire with government forces in Chhattisgarh State. A rebel died in the Bijapur area during an exchange of gunfire. A paramilitary officer was wounded when Maoists targeted soldiers during their patrolling in a forested area in the state's Kanker district. *New Delhi Television* reported that rebels detonated seven bombs simultaneously.

November 18: Two masked men on a motorbike threw a grenade at a Sikh prayer hall in the suburbs of Amritsar in Punjab State, killing three people and hospitalizing 15.

November 20: During a raid by police and soldiers on a village where militants were hiding in a civilian house in Kashmir, the rebels fired at soldiers. In the ensuing gun battle, four rebels and one soldier from India's special forces unit were killed and two soldiers were injured.

Gunmen shot at Hafizullah Mir, a senior political leader of Tehreek-e-Hurriyat, a group that challenges India's sovereignty over Kashmir, at his home in the southern Achabal area. Mir died and his wife was wounded. Rebel groups and separatist leaders blamed Indian authorities. He was released from jail in October after two years imprisonment in India. Tehreek-e-Hurriyat had said that Mir was receiving telephoned death threats.

November 23: In the morning, security forces killed six suspected insurgents in gunfire in the Indian portion of Kashmir. Security forces attacked a suspected rebel hideout in the foothills of the Waghama Sutkipora area of south Kashmir.

November 25: In the morning, Indian troops surrounded a village in the Shopian area of Kashmir,

sparking a gun battle in which six rebels and an army soldier were killed and another soldier wounded.

December 8–9: Following an 18-hour siege on a hideout that began on December 8, Indian troops killed three suspected rebels in the outskirts of Srinagar, Kashmir's main city. Two counterinsurgency police officials and a soldier were wounded.

December 11: Suspected rebels attacked a police post in Shopian, Kashmir, killing four officers and stealing four automatic rifles. No group immediately claimed credit.

December 15: A gun battle in a village in the southern Pulwama area of Kashmir killed three rebels and a soldier. Troops acting on a tip surrounded the village and conducted a search for a rebel hideout. The gunmen ran out of a civilian home, set up in an apple orchard, and shot at soldiers and counterinsurgency police. One soldier was wounded. Hundreds of protestors supporting the rebels tried to help the rebels escape, throwing stones at the soldiers. Troops fired bullets, shotgun pellets and tear gas in return, killing seven and injuring 22 others.

December 22: A morning clash during a raid on a rebel hideout between Indian troops and Kashmiri rebels killed six gunmen in the Tral area of Kashmir.

December 22: The *Washington Post* reported that troops raided a hideout of three rebel Kashmiri separatists in Sirnoo in Pulwama district. Hundreds of young people swarmed the soldiers, who fired on the crowd, killing seven, including a 14-year-old boy, and wounding dozens more. In the gun battle, a soldier and the three Hizbul Mujahideen died.

December 29: A gun battle between militants and government forces raiding a terrorist safehouse in the Pulwama area in Kashmir killed four rebels, sparking anti-India protests and clashes in which six people were injured.

Indonesia

February 6: A three-member panel of judges at the West Jakarta District Court convicted jihadi Suryadi Mas'ud of procuring weapons his terrorist network planned to use in attacks and sentenced him to ten years in prison. He and three other suspected jihadis were arrested in March 2017. Police said the four were trying to establish a jihadist training camp in eastern Indonesia. The court said Mas'ud was guilty of an "evil" conspiracy to carry out terror acts. Mas'ud raised a finger and shouted "Allah Akbar."

February 11: Police shot a man, Suliyono, 22, who attacked the St. Lidwina Church congregation with a sword during morning Mass, injuring four people, including a German priest, Karl Edmund Prier, 81, and a police officer in Sleman district in Yogyakarta

Province. The attacker decapitated statues of Jesus Christ and the Virgin Mary. The priest and policeman suffered back, neck and head wounds.

February 12: Presiding Judge Siti Jamzanah said it was proven that Zainal Anshori, 43, “committed a criminal act of terrorism” and sentenced the leader of Jamaah Anshorut Daulah, an ISIS-affiliated jihadi network in Indonesia, to seven years in prison for involvement in smuggling guns from the southern Philippines. She sentenced his brother, Zainal Hasan, to five years. She said the brothers and another jihadi traveled to a town in northern Sulawesi closest to the Indonesian border with the southern Philippines to collect a cache of weapons, including automatic rifles. The court said Anshori also tried to establish a jihadist training camp in eastern Indonesia. Authorities arrested Anshori in April 2017; shortly thereafter, six gunmen were killed in a failed reprisal attack against police in East Java Province. Anshori received \$20,000 in cash to collect rifles and pistols purchased by Mas’ud, a jihadi sentenced to ten years in prison in early February 2018. Anshori’s attorneys said he would not appeal. In 2017, the U.S. deemed the group a global terrorist organization.

March 1: Police announced the arrest of 14 members of the “Muslim Cyber Army,” which they say has been using hacking, online misinformation campaigns, and hate speech to move Indonesia in a more conservative direction. Mohammad Fadi Imran, director of the Indonesian national police cyber crimes unit, said that the 14 were accused of defamation, spreading false reports, racial and religious discrimination, among other crimes. Groups claiming membership in the network included The Family MCA, The United MCA, The Legend MCA, Special Force MCA, Muslim Sniper, and MCA News Legend.

Radical cleric Abu Bakar Baayis, variant Bashir, was moved from prison to the Cipto Mangunkusumo Hospital in Jakarta for medical treatment. He was the spiritual leader of the Bali bombers who killed 202 people in 2002 and the force behind a jihadist training camp in 2010. He was sentenced to 15 years in prison in 2011 for supporting a military-style training camp for jihadis. In 2016 he was transferred from his isolation cell on the maximum security Nusa Kambangan prison island to Gunung Sindur prison.

April 1: Military spokesman Colonel Muhammad Aidi said that while a joint military and police force were hunting an “armed separatist criminal group,” an afternoon gun battle between security forces and Papuan independence fighters near the U.S.-owned Grasberg copper mine in the country’s east killed one soldier. The National Liberation Army of West Papua said that numerous Indonesian soldiers were killed and a 10-year-old boy died in a fire caused by

the Indonesian attack. NLA said one of its fighters was killed.

April 9: A panel of three judges at the North Jakarta District Court sentenced suspected jihadi Kiki Muhamad Iqbal, 38, to nine years in prison for masterminding a double suicide bombing that targeted police at a bus terminal in Jakarta on May 24, 2017, that killed three policemen and the terrorists and wounded a dozen people, including police and civilians. Authorities had arrested six suspected jihadis believed to be members of Jamaah Anshorut Daulah, including Iqbal, days after the attack. JAD pledges allegiance to ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. The court ruled that Iqbal had organized and incited others to launch the suicide attacks through his jihadist sermons at a mosque in Bandung. Presiding Judge Purwanto wrote “The defendant has legally and convincingly been proven guilty of organizing and inciting others to commit acts of terrorism.”

In a separate trial in the same court, a three-judge panel sentenced jihadi Muslih Afifi Afandi to seven years in jail for harboring other suspects and hiding information about the attacks from authorities.

May 4: National Police spokesman Setyo Wasisto announced on May 7 the May 4 arrest by Indonesia’s counter-terrorism squad in West Java’s Bogor district of three jihadis accused of plotting a bomb attack against a police brigade headquarters and a suicide bombing at a police station using high-explosive materials. The suspects, identified as Anang Rachman, Muhammad Mulyadi and Abid Faqihuddin, included a 17-year-old student. They planned to hack police to death at a nearby traffic post. Wasisto announced that, “We have seized highly explosive materials” from them.

May 9: Dozens of jihadi prisoners rioted at a police detention center of the elite Mobile Brigade police in Depok near Jakarta. Five officers and a prisoner were killed, four police officers were wounded, and another officer was held hostage. An inmate was fatally shot after grabbing weapons and threatening officers. The Islamic State said the melee was between its fighters and the counterterrorism squad; authorities blamed the violence on a food dispute. Most of the prisoners surrendered on May 10. Ten inmates refused to give up but were subdued when police fired smoke bombs and tear gas. Senior officer Wiranto said the “detained terrorists ... committed cruelty by seizing weapons, holding hostages, torturing and even killing the officers in cruel and vile manners, beyond the limits of humanity.” He told a news conference that inmates had controlled about 30 guns and weapons they took from officers and a store room. Deputy National Police Chief Muhammad Syafruddin said all 155 inmates were involved in the riot, taking nine officers hostage, killing five and torturing the other four. The last

hostage, a chief sergeant, was released after midnight in exchange for food. The ringleaders included 30 to 40 inmates from Jemaah Anshorut Daulah, National Police spokesman Setyo Wasisto told local *MetroTV*.

May 13: *NPR, Antara, Asia Times, AP, the New York Times, El Shinta Radio, and CNN* reported that a family of six set off suicide bombs on their motorcycles at the Santa Maria Roman Catholic Church, the Indonesian Christian Church of Diponegoro and the Pantekosta Central Church in Surabaya, East Java, during Sunday services, killing twelve people plus the family members, the youngest of whom were girls, Fadhila, 12 and Famela, 8, and hospitalizing 41 people, including two police officers. The 7:30 a.m. Catholic church explosion killed four people; two people were killed at each of the other two churches, where bombs went off at 7:35 a.m. and 8 a.m. Two people later died at a hospital. National police chief Tito Karnavian said the father detonated a Toyota van bomb. Two sons, Yusuf, 17, and Firman, 15, drove a motorcycle for their attack. The mother and her two daughters wore explosive vests. One suicide bomber was disguised as a churchgoer. The mother, Puji Kuswati, attacked the Diponegoro church; she was carrying two bags. She hugged a civilian and the bomb exploded. ISIS claimed credit. A bomb squad detonated three unexploded bombs—two at the Pantekosta church and one at the Diponegoro church. Police later disputed reports that the family had returned from ISIS territory in Syria. *Asia Times* reported that the Priyanto family had been deported by Turkey. Officer Karnavian said Dita Priyanto, variant Oepriarto (incorrectly identified as Dita Futrianto), the father of the bomber family, was head of the Surabaya cell of Jemaah Anshorut Daulah. *AP* reported that the family lived in the upper-middle class Wonorejo Asri suburb since 2010 and was friendly with a Christian neighbor, Raith Yunanto. The father sold herbal medicines.

National police spokesman Setyo Wasisto said police fatally shot four suspected Jemaah Anshorut Daulah terrorists “trained in order to attack police” and arrested two others in the morning in West Java towns.

Asia Times reported that at dawn, counterterrorism officers killed four terrorist suspects at a Cianjur bus terminal in South Jakarta. Police had tracked them from Sukabumi, West Java.

May 14: Terrorists on two motorcycles approached a security checkpoint; two people on one of the motorbikes set off an explosion at Surabaya police headquarters. The second blast went off a second later. All four terrorists died. Four officers and six civilians were injured. National police chief Tito Karnavian said the bombings were the work of one

family, as was the case with the previous day’s attacks. One family member—an 8-year-old girl who was with two of the four attackers—was thrown clear by the explosion and survived. The parents, Tri Murtiono and Tri Ernawati, died along with their two sons, according to the *New York Times*.

Three members of a family were killed when homemade bombs exploded at an apartment in Sidoarjo, a town bordering Surabaya. Police shot to death Anton Ferdianto, a father of four, who was holding the detonator for the bomb that killed his wife and a daughter. Police said the bomb was meant for an upcoming attack in Surabaya and used TATP.

Police said the church bombers, the police headquarters attackers, and the Sidoarjo apartment family were friends.

May 15: Counterterrorism police shot to death a militant and arrested 13 others in raids in Surabaya, Malang and Pasuruan suspected of links to suicide bombings by two families in Surabaya.

May 16: Four sword-wielding men crashed a minivan into Riau Province’s police headquarters in Pekanbaru in Sumatra, hitting three officers with the vehicle. One officer later died; two others were injured. Police shot to death the terrorists. The driver was arrested trying to escape. ISIS claimed credit on *Amaq*. Riau police said they were looking for a sixth man. Police said they were members of the ISIS-affiliated Negara Islam Indonesia, also known as Darul Islam.

May 18: Prosecutors called for a death sentence for radical Islamic cleric Aman Abdurrahman, alleged ideological leader of IS in Indonesia, who was accused of ordering several attacks from prison, including a January 2016 suicide bombing and gun attack in Jakarta that killed four civilians and four attackers. More than 100 officers from counterterrorism and paramilitary units protected the South Jakarta District Court at his trial.

June 22: The five-judge panel of the South Jakarta District Court in Jakarta sentenced radical Islamic cleric Aman Abdurrahman, founder of Jemaah Anshorut Daulah, to death for ordering Islamic State group-affiliated terrorists to carry out attacks including the January 2016 suicide bombing at a Starbucks in Jakarta that killed four civilians and four terrorists, an attack on a bus terminal in Jakarta that killed three police officers, and an attack on a church in Kalimantan that killed a 2-year-old girl and seriously burned several other children. Police and prosecutors said he was a key ideologue for IS in Indonesia. Presiding Judge Ahmad Zaini observed that Abdurrahman’s “speeches, teachings and instructions have inspired his group and followers to commit criminal acts of terrorism in Indonesia.”

The court held that there was no reason for leniency and gave defense lawyers seven days to appeal.

June 25: Gunmen killed three civilians and injured two people, including the pilot, in an attack that targeted a light Twin Otter plane transporting paramilitary police at Kenyam airport in Nduga district in Papua Province. The plane had just landed. The dead were migrant traders from South Sulawesi Province, including a husband and wife, who were shot and stabbed as the attackers fled the airport. The police were going from the highlands town of Wamena to Nduga to provide security during upcoming regional elections. Police said the terrorists belonged to the "Armed Civilians Criminal Group" that had previously shot dead a worker on the trans-Papua highway project.

June 27: Gunmen attacked police and civilians in a mountainous region of Papua Province during local elections, killing two people. An official was killed and two police officers were missing after gunmen shot at their speedboat, which was transporting them from Torere subdistrict, where they observed local elections. A motorcycle taxi driver who was a Javanese migrant died after being shot in the head in Waegi subdistrict.

September 13: The West Jakarta District Court sentenced jihadi Wawan Kurniawan to eleven years in prison for conducting training in preparation for a terrorist attack. An anti-terror squad arrested him in October 2017 in Pekanbaru, capital of Riau Province. He was the local leader of Jemaah Anshorut Daulah, an Indonesian jihadi network affiliated with ISIS. He was accused of provoking a riot in May 2018 at a police detention center near Jakarta that left five officers and a prisoner dead.

November 9: During a week of gun battles between Papuan independence fighters and police and armed forces, two Papuan rebels and a third person were killed in the highlands of Papua region. The police and military were trying to capture Purom Wenda, a West Papua Liberation Army commander at large for 15 years. Authorities called him a former petty criminal of "low intellectual level." Wenda said two of his fighters were killed in a shootout with police and soldiers in mountainous Lanny Jaya district after his group shot dead a motorbike taxi driver they claimed was spying for Indonesian security forces. The military retorted that the man, a migrant from Sulawesi, was an innocent civilian. Wenda said, "Our struggle in the jungle has been going for decades. Countless people have died for this struggle. Indonesia said that they have given us special autonomy, infrastructure, and other excuses. We do not want all that. We only want freedom."

Jakarta police spokesman Argo Yuwono said Rohandi, 31, repeatedly yelled "God is Great" as he attacked officers with a machete and a knife, chasing

some through a Jakarta police station building and smashing a glass door. An officer shot Rohandi in the hand. One officer was slightly injured in his arm from a machete blow. Rohandi had arrived in northern Jakarta on a motorbike after midnight. He threw his knife at a half dozen officers and swung his machete. Police searched the attacker's house.

Japan

February 23: *Kyodo* reported that police arrested two suspected ultra-right-wing Japanese male activists, aged 46 and 56, for a drive-by shooting at North Korea's de facto embassy, the pro-Pyongyang General Association of Korean Residents in Japan, in Tokyo in the morning. The two men faced charges of damaging a building and violating gun control laws.

Malaysia

April 21: Hamas blamed Mossad when two gunmen on a motorbike shot to death Fadi M. R. al-Batsh, 34, a Palestinian engineer heading to a suburban Kuala Lumpur mosque for dawn prayers. Palestinian websites said the Hamas member was a relative of a senior official in the Gaza branch of Islamic Jihad. Palestinian Ambassador Anwar H. al-Agha told the *New Straits Times* newspaper that al-Batsh was a second imam at the mosque. Police said CCTV showed him targeted by the assassins who had waited for him for almost 20 minutes. Inspector General of Royal Malaysian Police Mohamad Fuzi Harun released photos of two European or Middle Eastern suspects. Malaysian national police chief Mohamad Fuzi Harun said the suspects wore black jackets, were fair-skinned, well-built and had beards. Al-Batsh was hit by 14 bullets. Israeli Defense Minister Avigdor Lieberman suggested that al-Batsh may have been killed as part of a rivalry between Palestinians. *AP* reported that al-Batsh was believed to have been working on Hamas's unmanned aerial vehicle program and on improving the accuracy of its rockets. He had lived in Malaysia for more than seven years and had permanent resident status. He had a degree in electrical engineering and lectured at a local university. He was scheduled to fly to Turkey for a conference. On April 25, Harun said that the motorcycle had been found near the murder scene and police had traced an actual photo of a suspect. The men apparently entered Malaysia in late January carrying fake ID documents. 18042102

June 1: National police chief Mohamad Fuzi Harun announced the arrests from March through May of six Malaysians, six Filipinos, a Bangladeshi restaurant owner and a couple from a north African coun-

try for smuggling firearms and plotting attacks on places of worship. The cases:

- A Malaysian student, 17, suspected of ISIS membership, had made six Molotov cocktails he planned to use against entertainment outlets, churches and Hindu temples in Kuala Lumpur. He tested one of his devices in an open area and was detained in April, an hour after he produced a video on social media warning of the attacks.
- Police detained a Malaysian woman, 51, on May 9 during general elections for planning to ram a car into non-Muslims at a voting center. Fuzi said, "In addition, the suspect also planned to drive into non-Muslim worship places using a car filled with gas cylinders as explosives."
- Police detained a Malaysian, 33, after he was deported by Turkey for trying to enter Syria to join ISIS.
- Two Malaysians had planned to kidnap and kill police officers and attack places of worship.
- In April, police detained an African couple, both in their early 20s and suspected of having ISIS ties. They were deported.
- Police believed that a Bangladeshi, 41, was involved in smuggling weapons for terrorists.
- In April, police detained a Malaysian and six Filipinos, aged between 22 and 49, in Sabah state on Borneo for being part of a cell collecting arms to wage jihad in Marawi in the Philippines.

September 18: Philippine police said that two Indonesian skippers of a Malaysian fishing boat were abducted off the Semporna Islands in Sabah, Malaysia, and taken by suspected Abu Sayyaf gunmen armed with M-16 rifles toward the southern Philippines. 18091801

September 24: AP and UPI reported on October 6, 2018, that national police chief Mohamad Fuzi Harun announced the September 24 arrest by the Bukit Aman Special Branch Counter Terrorism Division of eight suspected militants, including seven foreigners and a Malaysian, for allegedly spreading Salafi jihadi extremism that could threaten national security and fan terrorism in the region. The suspects were connected with an Islamic religious school in Dammaj, Yemen that promotes Salafism, which permit the killings of non-Muslims as well as Muslims who do not follow their ways and denounce democracy as un-Islamic. The Dammaj madrasa was organized by Sheikh Muqbil Hadi al-Wadi, a Salafi scholar. The foreigners, aged between 24 and 38, included five people from a country in Europe, one from the Americas and one from the Middle East. The eight were linked to an Islamic learning center in northern Perlis State. Fuzi said six students of the Perlis center were detained in the state and believed to have ties with either ISIS or extremist cells in their country. The Middle Eastern

man, a former teacher at the Perlis center, was arrested in Kuala Lumpur for conducting unlawful Islamic classes to spread Salafi teachings. A Malaysian/Middle Eastern businessman, 33, a former student of the Perlis center who wants to promote Islamic rule in Malaysia, was detained in Muar in southern Johor State.

Myanmar

January 5: More than 20 members of the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army used bombs to attack a military truck coming from Taungpyo township in northern Rakhine State, injuring six Myanmar soldiers.

February 1: CNN reported that a Molotov cocktail was thrown at the Yangon lakeside villa of Nobel Laureate and Myanmar State Councilor Aung San Suu Kyi.

February 21: A bomb went off in a bank as it was closing for the day in Lashio, capital of Shan State, killing two female employees of the Yoma Bank branch and injuring 21 others.

February 24: Three bombs exploded at 4 a.m. at government offices in Rakhine State. One morning explosion injured a police officer. One bomb went off in front of a senior government official's residence. Another three bombs were defused in Sittwe, the state capital.

May 12: The Ta'ang National Liberation Army conducted three attacks on military targets after 5 a.m. in Muse in Shan State. Two hit military bases and another hit a bridge. The attacks lasted three hours. Fifteen people died and 20, including civilians, were injured. Muse police officer Aye Myint said 19 died, and that the attackers used small arms and mortars. Red Cross member Nan Mwe Phown, who was at a hospital in Muse, said the dead included 13 male civilians and two female civilians, including a pregnant woman, as well as several police officers. Parliament member Sai Kyaw Thein said the dead included 15 civilians, three soldiers and a police officer. The TNLA said it was retaliating for military operations against the Kachin Independence Army. It claimed it was targeting soldiers and militia members who ran a casino. TNLA spokesman Colonel Tar Aik Kyaw said "Many civilians go to casinos and it causes many social problems. That's why we launched a major assault ... [Casinos are a] gateway for distributing drugs." Government spokesman Zaw Htay said that "terrorist attack" was conducted by 100 insurgents with small arms and artillery.

Pakistan

January 9: A Pakistani court ordered the release for health reasons of radical anti-U.S. cleric Sufi Mo-

hammad, who went to Afghanistan to help the Taliban fight against Americans after 9/11 and was imprisoned since 2009, according to defense lawyer Fida Gul. Mohammad is the father-in-law of Mullah Fazlullah, the leader of the Pakistani Taliban.

A Pakistani Taliban suicide bomber hit a police truck in Quetta, killing six people, including four policemen, and wounding 17, most of them policemen. TTP said he targeted a police contingent returning from duty at the provincial assembly building.

January 10: BBC reported that ten to twelve men beat and kidnapped prominent journalist Taha Siddiqui, threatening to kill him on his way to Islamabad's airport. He jumped out of a moving vehicle and alerted police.

January 15: Gunmen fired on a paramilitary convoy in Turbat, Baluchistan Province, killing six troops and wounding four others. No one claimed credit.

January 16: A suicide bomber on a motorcycle attacked Rao Anwar, a senior Pakistani police officer who led raids on terrorist hideouts, during the night near Karachi. The terrorist died but Anwar was unharmed. Several attackers fired on Anwar's car; his guards killed two gunmen. Police were searching for the remaining terrorists. Pakistani Taliban spokesman Mohammad Khurasani claimed credit.

January 18: Gunmen killed a mother and her daughter who were working for an anti-polio campaign in Quetta.

Gunmen killed two policemen in Quetta. No one claimed either attack.

January 21: Pakistani Taliban gunmen on a motorcycle outside a car showroom killed former police officer Fazlur Rehman, who was fired over the 2011 killing of five Chechen women in Quetta. Rehman and another police officer said they mistook the Chechen women for terrorists. Both were fired, and the other police officer was shot dead in 2013. The Pakistani Taliban said it was avenging the women's deaths.

January 24: Pakistani officials and police said a U.S. drone fired two missiles that hit a home in Dapa Mamuzai village near Pakistan's Kurram tribal region near the Afghan border, killing two Haqqani Network members: commander Ahsanullah and Nasir Mehsud.

January 30: A roadside bomb killed six members of a family, including three women travelling from Muqbil to Boshera to attend a funeral in the Kurram tribal region near the Afghan border. One person was hospitalized. No group claimed credit.

February 1: The *Express Tribune* of Pakistan reported that a senior member of the Pakistan Peoples' Party (PPP) Mir Hazar Khan Bijarani and his

wife, Fariha Razaque, were found dead at their home in Phase V of Karachi's Defence Housing Authority (DHA) neighborhood. The bodies had sustained bullet wounds. He was the planning and development minister of Sindh and belonged to Kurrampur area of Kashmore District. He served several times as a federal and provincial minister during the tenures of PPP. His wife was a journalist who later became MPA on a PPP ticket in 2002.

February 3: A Pakistani Taliban suicide bomber targeted soldiers playing volleyball and exercising at an empty lot in the Kabal area of the Swat Valley, killing eleven, including an officer, and wounding 13. The group said its bomber was avenging the killing and arrests of fellow militants.

Three gunmen shot to death Sumbul, a female singer who refused to perform at a private party in Mardan. They shot her several times at her home after the gunmen broke in.

February 5: Gunmen killed a Chinese citizen and wounded a second in an upscale neighborhood of Karachi while shopping. The victims worked for a shipping firm. The attackers fired nine times before fleeing in a car. One victim was shot twice in the head and died at a hospital; the other was shot in the leg. 18020501

A remotely detonated roadside bomb planted near a garbage bin at a crowded intersection in Panjgur killed one person and wounded seven others, two critically. No one claimed credit.

February 8: AP and *Tolo News* reported that Azam Tariq Mehsud, spokesman for the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan, said a U.S. drone strike in Gorwak in North Waziristan killed the group's deputy chief, Khalid Mehsud, alias Khan Saeed Mehsud, alias Commander Khan Saeed Sajna. Mufti Noor Wali was appointed his successor as head of the Mehsud splinter group. Sajna was believed to be a supporter of the Haqqani Network. The *Express Tribune* meanwhile reported that Khan Saeed Mehsud was killed in a drone strike in the Margha area of Barmal in Afghanistan, along with his nephew Ismail and two guards.

February 14: Lashkar-e-Jhangvi al-Almi motorcyclists shot at a vehicle carrying paramilitary forces in a bazaar in Quetta's Saryab neighborhood, killing four troops, then escaped. Lashkar spokesman Ali Bin Sufyan said attacks against security forces would continue.

February 28: Gunmen in Quetta fired on a convoy carrying senior police officer Hameedullah Dasti, killing two of his guards but not harming him. Dasti was en route to a prison to shuttle jihadis on trial to court. He was in a bullet-proof vehicle; his guards lacked similar protection. Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) spokesman Mohammad Khurasani said that

such attacks would continue in revenge for the killing of detained militants.

March 14: A Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan suicide bomber hit a police checkpoint outside Lahore, killing five police officers and four civilians and wounding 27 people near a religious group's main congregation place in the Raiwind neighborhood.

March 17: Gunmen attacked a polio vaccination team in a remote tribal region, killing two of the medical workers and seriously wounding another two. They then attacked tribal police and the paramilitary Frontier Corps who responded to the attack that night, killing one paramilitary and wounding another. The Jamaatul Ahrar faction of the Pakistani Taliban claimed credit.

March 22: Soldiers shot to death a would-be suicide bomber who fired on a security convoy in the Quetta suburbs.

March 27: Gunmen on a motorcycle shot and killed a transgender woman and her friend as they traveled in a rickshaw in Peshawar late in the evening.

Police chief Mohammad Ashraf said local politician Imran Cheema shot and killed journalist Zee-shan Ashraf Butt, who worked for the local *Nawa-i-Waqt* newspaper, before escaping in Sambrial in Punjab Province.

March 30: The Pakistani Taliban bombed a police convoy in Dera Ismail Khan, killing three officers. They were targeting newly appointed district police chief Zahib Ullah, who was not harmed.

April 2: NPR reported that ISIS claimed credit when gunmen on motorcycles killed four members of a Christian family in Quetta.

Gunmen on motorcycles shot to death five Muslims in Quetta.

Army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa confirmed death sentences for ten convicted militants, including the killer of a well-known Sufi qawwali singer Amjad Sabri in 2016 in Karachi. Military courts found "terrorists" guilty of taking part in attacks that killed 62 people.

April 3: The U.S. Department of State designated the Milli Muslim League, a small Pakistani political party, as a foreign terrorist group, calling it a front for Lashkar-e-Taiba, the terrorists behind the 2008 Mumbai attacks, which killed 168 people. Tabish Qayyum, a spokesman for the party, said the U.S. was intervening in "internal political matters." He said the party "condemns all kinds of violence, extremism and terrorism and aims to make Pakistani society more tolerant and progressive."

April 9: A suicide bomber hit a vehicle carrying security forces in a residential area of Quetta, wounding five soldiers, some critically. No one claimed credit.

April 15: Two gunmen on a motorcycle fired on worshippers leaving a Sunday evening church service in Quetta's Eisa Nagri neighborhood, killing two people and wounding five others, including a young girl. Two victims were in critical condition. No group claimed credit.

April 18: Gunmen on a motorcycle shot at an auto parts shop in Quetta, killing a Hazara Shi'ite shopkeeper.

April 19: Men on motorcycles threw acid at three female university students en route to school at a bus stop in the Dinga neighborhood of Gujrat. Police arrested one of the three men. One woman sustained facial burns while the other two were burned on their arms. Two were sisters, the third a friend. Police said that attack followed a family dispute over a sister's refusal of a marriage proposal and that the sisters' uncle, who came from Islamabad, was among the attackers.

April 22: Gunmen on motorcycles killed two local officials in Shi'ite community organizations and wounded a third in Quetta. Ali Raza was a Baluchistan Shi'ite Conference official while Syed Zaman worked for the Hazara Welfare Foundation. IS claimed credit.

April 24: A suicide bomber crashed his motorcycle into a police vehicle on an airport road in Quetta, killing the six police and wounding seven others.

Two suicide bombers hit a checkpoint outside a Frontier Corps base in the Mian Ghundi area of Quetta. Paramilitary fighters killed both suicide bombers, but eight troops were hospitalized.

Hizbul Ahrar, a Pakistani Taliban splinter, claimed both attacks.

April 27: Gunmen killed three local tourists from Dera Ismail Khan and their driver as they were camping during the night in the Momi Karam area of South Waziristan along the Afghanistan border. The terrorists torched the camp.

April 28: Gunmen attacked a Quetta electronics shop, killing two shopkeepers, both of them minority Hazara Shi'ites, before escaping on motorcycles.

May 3: A suicide bomber on a motorcycle hit a bus carrying employees of the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission in Punjab Province, killing two people and wounding several others. The terrorist shot at the bus. The driver stopped the vehicle to chase the terrorist, who then detonated his explosives. No one claimed credit.

During the night, gunmen killed six laborers from Punjab Province who were working on a project for the national phone company in Kharan in Baluchistan Province. Baluch separatists were suspected.

May 5: Army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa con-

firmed death sentences for eleven “hardcore terrorists” after military courts found them guilty of carrying out multiple attacks that killed 36 civilians and 24 troops in recent years. He approved imprisonment for three people for their involvement in acts of terrorism.

May 6: A gunman, 22, wounded Interior Minister Ahsan Iqbal in the shoulder as he returned to his car after a meeting in Narowal district. The gunman was arrested.

May 11: A roadside bomb hit a vehicle carrying police officers in a congested bazaar in Bannu in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province bordering Afghanistan, killing one officer and wounding 13. No one claimed credit.

May 13: The Pakistani Taliban claimed credit for the ambush of an army vehicle on patrol in North Waziristan that killed seven soldiers. The gunmen fled into Afghanistan.

May 16: Troops raided a jihadi hideout in Killi Almas near Quetta in Baluchistan Province. In the ensuing shootout, military intelligence officer Suhail Abid died, as did three jihadis, including Salman Badeni, a provincial commander of Lashkar-e-Jhangvi; he was wanted for more than 100 deaths of minority Shi’ites.

May 17: A suicide bomber on a motorcycle hit a security convoy in Nowshera in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province, wounding 14 troops and passers-by.

May 27: Gunmen on a motorcycle killed two police sergeants in Quetta. A patrol from the industrial area police station gave chase and killed both attackers.

Police killed six “terrorists” behind a 2017 bomb attack in Lahore as they were traveling on motorcycles near Gujrat. Three suspects escaped. The Jamaat-ul-Ahrar were believed to be behind a bombing that killed 26 people, including nine police. Police seized weapons and explosive vests from the scene of the raid.

May 29: Gunmen on a motorcycle killed human rights activist Charanjit Singh, 52, a well-known member of the minority Sikh community and an outspoken critic of the Taliban, at a shop in Peshawar. His family in recent years had migrated from the Khyber tribal region, where he had been a vocal supporter of the military’s efforts to crack down on jihadis.

June 1: Hizbul Ahrar, an offshoot of the Pakistani Taliban, gunned down Hamidullah Khan, one of the staff of Mohammad Ayaz Khan, the top administrator in North Waziristan, and wounded three security guards in an attack on Khan’s vehicle during the night. A fourth guard was missing.

June 3: Security forces killed six militants and

thwarted seven attempts to target military posts in a northwestern tribal region and a border village in the southwest. Five troops were wounded in the two cross-border attacks in the Bajur tribal region and in Qamar Din Qarez in Baluchistan Province.

June 5: Two Islamic State suicide bombers attacked a Frontier Corps security post in Mastung, killing three officers and wounding two. One set off his explosives when the officers asked them to stop. A sharpshooter killed the second attacker. An IS-affiliated website called the attackers “martyrdom seekers.”

June 6: Two gunmen on a motorcycle opened fire on a parked police vehicle in Quetta, killing one policeman and wounding two others.

June 7: A roadside bomb in the Dir district killed a local police chief and his driver and wounded some passers-by. The Pakistani Taliban was suspected.

June 15: Gunmen killed three Pakistani soldiers in a cross-border attack in the North Waziristan region bordering Afghanistan.

June 16: Senior police official Officer Naseeb Ullah said gunmen on motorcycles fired on a vehicle carrying paramilitary soldiers in Quetta’s Saryab Road neighborhood, killing three troops before fleeing. No one claimed credit.

June 23: Pakistani Taliban spokesman Mohammad Khurasani announced that TTP’s executive council had appointed religious scholar Mufti Noor Wali Mahsud as its new chief and Mufti Mazhim, alias Mufti Hafzullah, as his deputy.

The army announced it had killed six militants in a search operation in the Spina Mela area in South Waziristan near the Afghan border. Two soldiers were killed in the clash. The military was acting on intelligence that some militants entered there from Afghanistan disguised as tribesmen being repatriated into the area. Authorities confiscated weapons and communications tools. The military claimed that the militants were in contact with their handlers in Afghanistan’s Paktia Province.

July 2: Gunmen fired rocket-propelled grenades at a convoy of paramilitary troops in Awaran district’s Mashki area in Baluchistan Province, killing six and wounding two.

Attackers in the North Waziristan region’s Boya area killed two policemen and injured government official Rehmat Hussain and a policeman.

July 3: Local police official Mohammad Hussain said a remotely detonated bomb killed three workers doing a survey for a local oil exploration company near the town of Dera Bugti in Baluchistan Province. The bomb wounded five surveyors.

July 4: Pakistani intelligence officials said a sus-

pected U.S. drone strike killed Gul Bahadur group commander Qari Abdullah Dawar and his associate as they walked near their mountain hideout in the Tor Tangai area of North Waziristan near the Afghan border.

July 10: A nighttime Pakistani Taliban suicide bombing at an Awami National Party rally in Peshawar, killed 21, including Haroon Ahmed Bilour, a secular candidate for a seat in the provincial legislature, and wounded 65, including Bilour's 16-year-old son Daniyal, two weeks before nationwide elections. A 2012 suicide bombing killed Bilour's father, Bashir Ahmed Bilour.

July 13: A suicide bomber hit an election rally in Baluchistan in support of Nawabzada Siraj Raisani, who was running for a state legislature seat in the Mastung district, killing 149 people and injuring more than 500. Raisani, who was critically wounded and later died, had recently formed the Baluchistan Awami Party. Pundits said he was pro-military and against local separatist groups. Raisani was the brother of former provincial chief minister Nawab Aslam Raisani. The Islamic State claimed credit. Raisani had survived a 2011 bombing in the district of a soccer match, but his teen son and 24 others were killed. On July 20, senior police officer Aitzaz Ahmad Goraya said that alleged attacker Hafeez Nawaz and his family lived in Sindh Province. Goraya said Nawaz and his brother were members of Lashkar-e-Jhangvi.

Earlier that day, four people were killed and 20 others wounded in a bombing near the rally of Akram Khan Durrani, who was running for a seat in parliament from Bannu. Durrani was not harmed. The bomb exploded after Durrani had finished his speech and was preparing to leave. He is a member of Muttahida Majlis-e-Amal, an election alliance of radical religious groups.

July 16: During the night, Sheikh Aftab Ahmed, who served as a minister in former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's former government, and Pakistan Muslim League candidate running for a seat in Pakistan's parliament, escaped an assassination attempt when he came under attack while returning from a rally in Punjab Province's Attock district.

July 17: Counter-terrorism police in Punjab Province arrested four suspected terrorists from the Pakistani Taliban and Lashkar-e-Jhangvi near Multan. Police found explosives and weapons in the suspects' possession. Police said the foursome had planned to attack political rallies and security forces.

July 20: Local police official Mohammad Hakim said a roadside bomb has exploded near a security convoy in Chaman in Baluchistan Province near the border with Afghanistan, wounding six people and damaging ten shops in the bazaar. No one claimed credit.

July 22: Ikramullah Khan Gandapur, a provincial assembly candidate for the Pakistan Justice Party in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, was killed by a Pakistani Taliban suicide bomber while on his way to a campaign event in northwest Pakistan. His driver also died.

Gunmen fired at a vehicle carrying Akram Khan Durrani, leader of the Jamiat-Ulema-Islam-Fazl party that supports the Afghan Taliban, in Bannu, causing no injuries. It was the second attack against Durrani in eight days.

July 24: Gunmen fired grenades and shot at troops escorting an election convoy with election staffers and voting material in the Niwano area of the Turbat district of Baluchistan Province, killing three army soldiers and a member of the paramilitary force and wounding 13 people, including eight soldiers, a member of the paramilitary force and four civilians.

July 25: A suicide bomber on a motorcycle crashed into people waiting outside a busy polling station in Quetta, killing 31 people, including the uncle of Abdul Haleem, and wounding 35, several critically. Officials blamed the Islamic State.

August 4: During the night, gunmen killed a police officer and wounded another during an overnight search operation for suspects linked to the torching of eleven girls' or co-ed schools in northern Pakistan on August 3. Gilgit-Baltistan's police chief, Sanaullah Abbasi, said that a suspect was killed and 17 were arrested.

August 5: Gunmen fired on the vehicle of a judge who was heading to the funeral of the slain police officer. The judge was unharmed.

August 11: The *USA Times* of the KVH Media Group on August 12, 2018, reported that a suicide bomb hit a bus in the southwest, killing six people, including three Chinese nationals. 18081101

August 23: A remotely detonated roadside bomb targeting a team of explosives experts killed a soldier and wounded three near Dand Kalay in North Waziristan along the Afghan border. The Pakistani Taliban was suspected.

September 10: Army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa confirmed death sentences for 13 Pakistani Taliban "hardcore terrorists" after military courts found them guilty of carrying out attacks that killed 202 people, including 151 civilians and 51 security forces, and wounded 249 people. The military also approved prison terms for seven convicts involved in acts of terrorism, including the destruction of educational institutions.

The government filed criminal complaints against 43 Muslim militants from two armed groups linked to the Islamic State for two bomb attacks in the southern Philippines, including a suspected suicide bombing that killed 11 people. National police chief

Director General Oscar Albayalde said murder complaints were filed against 18 suspected members of the Abu Sayyaf for a blast on July 31 that killed 11 people and wounded several others in Lamitan on Basilan island. A foreign terrorist who drove the van bomb died in the suspected suicide attack. Among those charged was Abu Sayyaf commander Furuji Indama, who Albayalde said ordered the bombing but was at large along with nine other suspects. Eight suspects, including bomb expert Julamin Arundoh, who police said rigged the van with plastic gallons containing the explosives, were in custody. Interior Secretary Eduardo Ano said the terrorist driver had targeted a public gathering of about 3,000 people in Lamitan but his vehicle stalled; villagers whom he asked for help became suspicious when they saw unusual wires protruding from plastic gallons in the vehicle. As soldiers approached, the van exploded, killing the terrorist and ten other people outside a paramilitary detachment and wounding several villagers. The Islamic State claimed credit and said the attacker was Moroccan.

Criminal complaints were also filed against 25 members of the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters, who are blamed for an August 28 bombing that killed three people as residents of Isulan in Sultan Kudarat Province celebrated its annual founding festival. Five days later, another bomb hit Isulan.

September 13: Security forces acting on intelligence raided a militant hideout in North Waziristan, sparking a shootout that killed three soldiers and four terrorists. The military said the dead “terrorists” were involved in attacks on security forces in 2017.

September 14: A roadside bomb hit a security convoy near Pashi in Baluchistan Province, killing three security personnel. No group claimed credit.

September 22: Security forces raided terrorist hideouts in the Gharlamai and Spera Kunar Algad areas of North Waziristan near the border with Afghanistan, setting off a shootout that killed seven soldiers, including an army captain, and nine terrorists.

September 23: Assistant Administrator Ali Mohammad said that in the morning, gunmen attacked the base camp of a pro-government militia in the Dasht-e-Goran area of Baluchistan, killing four militia members. No one claimed credit.

September 28: Army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa confirmed death sentences for eleven Taliban fighters, “hardcore terrorists” convicted by military courts for attacks in recent years that killed 69 people, including 20 soldiers. He also approved prison terms for four militants.

October 5: Before dawn, gunmen killed Ismail Darvesh, the senior leader of a Sunni extremist Ahle

Sunnat Wal Jammāt party along with his guard in Peshawar. No one claimed responsibility. The group is an offshoot of the banned Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan, an anti-Shi’ite party.

October 24: Authorities released from prison senior Taliban commander Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar after high-level negotiations. He was arrested in Karachi in 2010. He coordinated military operations in southern Afghanistan. He was released following a visit to Pakistan by the Qatari foreign minister.

October 25: Pakistani Taliban gunmen on a motorcycle fired several bullets in a drive-by shooting, killing police officer Abdul Hakim in the Nawan Kili area of Quetta when he was returning home after duty at the Barori police station.

October 26: Army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa approved death sentences for 14 “hardcore terrorists” convicted by military courts for attacks in recent years that killed 19 security forces and three civilians. He also approved prison terms for eight militants. Those convicted were involved in attacks on security forces and civilians, and the destruction of educational institutions and a famous ski resort in Swat valley.

October 27: AP reported on November 15 that the badly beaten and tortured body of Pakistani police officer Tahir Khan Dawar, who went missing in Islamabad and was presumed abducted by terrorists on October 27, was found in Afghanistan’s Nangarhar Province, with a hand-written note saying he was abducted and killed by a little-known militant group. Interior Minister Shaharyar Afridi said Dawar “twice escaped suicide bombings in recent years.” The Pakistani Taliban denied involvement. 18102703

October 31: Gunmen on a motorcycle killed five workers at a construction site in Gwadar in Baluchistan Province. Two other workers were critically wounded. No one claimed credit.

November 2: Pakistani cleric Maulana Samiul Haq, 81, alias the “father of the Taliban,” was killed in a knife attack at his home in the Rawalpindi. Haq’s son, Hamidul Haq, said his father was alone in his bedroom when he was attacked. The assailant escaped undetected. His guard had left minutes before the attack. Haq was the head of his faction of the Jamiat-e-Ulema Islam (JUI) party. His Haqqani seminary in the conservative Khyber Pukhtunkhwa Province on the border with Afghanistan taught many of Afghanistan’s Taliban and thousands of other students. Sirajuddin Haqqani, deputy leader of the Haqqani network, was one of dozens of Taliban leaders who graduated from Haq’s seminary. Thousands of mourners attended his November 3 funeral in Akora Khattak, Pakistan.

November 5: Gunmen in a car fired on police inspector Zahid Mahmood, who was riding in his official car on a highway near Mureedke, en route to work in Lahore, Punjab Province, killing him, his guard and his driver. No group claimed credit.

November 7: Army Captain Zargham Fareed died while trying to defuse a roadside bomb found during a sweep in the Mohmad Gat area of Mohmand tribal region bordering Afghanistan. Another soldier was seriously wounded.

November 12: Authorities released Abdul Samad Sani, a U.S.-designated terrorist who served as the Afghan Central Bank governor during the Taliban's rule, along with a lower-ranking commander named Salahuddin.

November 16: A roadside bomb exploded in the congested Quiadabad area of Karachi, near a makeshift market where vendors were selling fruit, killing two people and wounding five others.

November 17: Pakistani Taliban gunmen on motorcycles killed former senior police officer Naeem Kakar in the Zarghoon road area of Quetta. Kakar was the former deputy inspector general of the Baluchistan provincial police's crime unit. Pakistani Taliban spokesman Mohammad Khurasani said attacks on police will continue to avenge arrests and killings of members of his group.

November 18: A roadside bomb exploded in suburban Quetta as a paramilitary vehicle was passing, killing three soldiers and wounding another four.

A rocket-propelled grenade hit a security vehicle in North Waziristan, killing two soldiers and wounding another two. No one claimed responsibility for the attacks.

November 22: A bomb at a Taliban-affiliated Haqqani Network hideout in the northwestern border town of Angore Adda in the South Waziristan region killed two militants and wounded a dozen.

November 23: *AP* and *Reuters* reported that at 9 a.m., three gunmen attacked the Chinese Consulate in Karachi's Clifton area, killing two policemen and two civilians by shooting and throwing hand grenades. Police and security guards at the checkpoint stopped the gunmen, returned fire, and killed them. Karachi police chief Amir Shaikh said the trio arrived in a car filled with explosives but failed to get inside the heavily fortified compound. It was not clear if the car had exploded. Witnesses told *Dawn* news channel that they heard an explosion. Three cars parked near the consulate were destroyed. Pakistani news channels reported that the separatist Baluchistan Liberation Army (BLA) claimed responsibility. BLA spokesman Jiand Baloch said, "They stormed the Chinese embassy in Karachi. China is exploiting our resources." Authorities said the civilians were a father and son

picking up their visas for China. A Consulate guard was wounded. On December 27, 2018, Pakistani officials and BLA members said Aslam Baloch, a BLA leader blamed for masterminding the attack, and five of his associates were killed by a suicide bomber who attacked a house in Kandahar, Afghanistan. 18112301

AP and *Reuters* reported that a suicide bomber drove a motorcycle into the market near a Shi'ite mosque in Kalaya in Orakzai district, killing 35 people buying vegetables, household items and warm clothes. The ISIS *Aamaq* news agency on November 25 claimed credit for attacking "apostate Shi'ites."

November 30: In an operation that ran into the next morning, security forces killed local Taliban commander Hakim Khan, who had taken six people hostage in the Daraban area of Dera Ismail Khan. Four security men were wounded in a shootout. Khan had an assault rifle, ammunition and grenades.

December 3: District police chief Qazi Jamil-ur-Rehman said that during the night, gunmen fired on a vehicle carrying local TV journalist Noor-ul-Hassan in Peshawar, killing him and wounding his cameraman. No one claimed credit.

December 8: Counter-terrorism police raided a terrorist hideout and arrested five male Tehreek-e-Taliban terrorists who were planning attacks on intelligence agency offices in Bahawalpur. Authorities seized suicide jackets, hand grenades, lethal weapons, ammunition and money. An initial investigation established that Tehreek-e-Taliban was coordinating with al-Qaeda for attacks on security agencies in Punjab Province.

During the night, a bomb targeting a religious gathering of hundreds of members of a faction of the Muttahida Qaumi Movement wounded six people in the Karachi neighborhood of Gulshan-e-Johar. No one claimed responsibility.

December 14: Thirty terrorists fired on a Frontier Corps convoy and set off a roadside bomb, killing six paramilitary troops and wounding 14 others in Buleda in Baluchistan Province. The military said it killed four "terrorists" after coming under attack during a raid on a militant hideout in Baluchistan. On December 16, Pakistan's Foreign Ministry lodged a protest with Iran, summoning Iran's ambassador to demand it take action against the armed group responsible for the attack. No one claimed the attack, and neither country identified those responsible.

December 16: Army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa approved death sentences for 15 people convicted by military courts of involvement in attacks that killed 32 security forces and two civilians. He also approved prison terms for 20 alleged militants.

They were involved in attacks on security forces and Christians, and the destruction of educational institutions.

December 25: Senior Pakistani police officer Javed Odho said that during the evening, gunmen shot to death former lawmaker Ali Raza Abidi outside his home in Karachi before fleeing. Abidi was a former member of the National Assembly. His Muttahida Qaumi Movement party called on the government to immediately trace and arrest his killers. The Muttahida Qaumi Movement party represents the Urdu-speaking population. Provincial police chief Kalim Imam said on December 28 that officers had detained suspects.

December 28: Army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa approved death sentences for 22 militants convicted by military courts of involvement in attacks that killed 176 security forces and civilians in recent years.

Philippines

January 17: Brigadier General Cirilito Sobejana said troops were trying to validate intelligence information that Malaysian militant leader Amin Baco survived the defeat of an Islamic State group-linked siege in Marawi and was helping to establish an extremist alliance while hiding in the mountains near Patikul town in Sulu Province with Abu Sayyaf commander Hatib Hajan Sawadjaan, his Filipino father-in-law. Sawadjaan was linked to several abductions of foreign tourists.

Sulu-based Abu Sayyaf commander Yassir Igasan was a candidate to succeed Isnilon Hapilon, who led the IS-affiliated alliance in Southeast Asia until he was killed in October 2017.

January 22: Soldiers captured Spanish man Abdelhakim Labidi Adib, 20, who was carrying two grenades and bomb parts in the hinterlands of Basilan's Maluso town. They believed he was an ISIS-linked Abu Sayyaf supporter. An Abu Sayyaf member with him escaped. He admitted visiting "the jungle" on southern Basilan island. Captain Exequiel Panti and two other army special forces officers filed complaints of illegal possession of explosives against Adib before Department of Justice prosecutors. Adib had tried to throw away a backpack containing the grenades, bomb parts, his passport, driver's license and other identification cards.

Adib said that he traveled to the Philippines for the first time last year to meet Filipinas and was en route to Manila through Zamboanga city when he was arrested. His Philippine visa was expired; he faced possible complaints for violation of the country's immigration regulations.

February 19: The head of the Philippine National

Police, Ronald dela Rosa, announced the arrests over the weekend of Fehmi Lassoued, who once worked as a "commander" for ISIS in Syria and Turkey, on weapons and explosive charges and for allegedly recruiting local fighters for IS-aligned insurgent groups, and his Philippine girlfriend Anabel Salipada. Dela Rosa said Lassoued entered the Philippines on a fake Tunisian passport in July 2016. The media variously described Lassoued as Tunisian or Egyptian.

March 13: National Security Adviser Hermogenes Esperon, Jr., said Filipino Humam Abdul Najid, alias Abu Dar, and Malaysian Amin Baco were among several jihadi commanders in the south who could succeed local IS leader Isnilon Hapilon, who was killed in the final battle of the five-month siege of Marawi city. The military claimed that Baco died, although his body was not found. Another candidate was Abu Sayyaf commander Yassir Igasan, a Libya-educated jihadi with ties to Middle Eastern armed groups.

March 29: Senior Abu Sayyaf commander Nurhasan Jamiri surrendered with 13 of his men to Army forces in Basilan Province, ceding ten assault rifles and a large cache of ammunition. He was believed responsible for a 2007 ambush in largely Muslim Basilan that killed 24 Philippine marines, several of whom were beheaded. His group gave sanctuary to other Abu Sayyaf terrorists involved in piracy and kidnappings, including of Vietnamese sailors. His group bombed the Basilan cities of Isabela and Lamitan and the southern port city of Zamboanga across the Basilan Strait, and conducted ransom kidnappings and extortion. In February, Malaysian authorities believed he and two other gunmen died in a firefight in a plantation in the east coast of the Malaysian state of Sabah. Philippine military officials said he was in Basilan at the time.

May 5: The armed forces were attempting to confirm intelligence reports that Yassir Igasan, a Libya-educated commander of Abu Sayyaf extremist group, died after being wounded in an artillery strike in southern Sulu Province's Patikul town in October 2017.

June 10: Just before an evening Mass, two gunmen fired through a chapel window and killed Roman Catholic priest Rev. Richmond Nilo at the altar of a chapel in Zaragoza in Nueva Ecija Province. The gunmen escaped on a motorcycle.

July: Mayor Antonio Halili of Tanauan city, south of Manila, was fatally shot while singing the national anthem at a flag-raising ceremony. President Duterte had linked him to illegal drug trafficking.

July 3: Army Lt. Col. Harold Cabunoc said troops clashed with 30–40 Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters jihadis aligned with ISIS who attempted to

attack a small southern town in fighting that left four gunmen dead. The troops drove them away from the small farming community of Mopac where they planned to launch an attack on the town center of Datu Paglas about a quarter mile away. The jihadists were led by Solaiman Tudon and occupied several abandoned houses in Mopac, where he used to live.

July 20: Radio commentator Joey Llana, 38, was shot nearly a dozen times in his van near his home in Daraga in Albay Province as he was leaving for work at dawn. The killers escaped. Llana had received death threats.

July 23: Presiding Judge Rosalyn Mislos-Loja granted the U.S. request for the extradition of Russell Langi Salic, alias Abu Khalid, a Filipino doctor suspected of being an ISIS sympathizer and plotting bombings and shootings at New York City concert venues, subway stations and Times Square. He was detained in Manila. He could appeal. In the 33-page decision, Mislos-Loja ordered the seizure and surrender to U.S. authorities of all items, documents and evidence, including cellphones, computers and documents connected with the offenses for which Salic was charged. He was linked to Canadian citizen Abdulrahman El Bahnasawy, who was arrested in the U.S. in 2016 and has pleaded guilty, and an American of Pakistani origin, Talha Haroon, who was arrested in Pakistan in 2016. American prosecutors said the trio were ISIS sympathizers who plotted bombings and shootings in 2016 in New York before U.S. agents thwarted the plot. Salic allegedly sent \$423 from the Philippines in May 2016 to an undercover FBI agent posing as a jihadi to help fund the planned attacks. The FBI said Salic allegedly made multiple money transfers in 2015 and 2016 in support of ISIS ranging from \$180 to \$435 to Australia, Lebanon, Malaysia and Palestine. He also sent money twice to Bosnia in April 2016, according to U.S. court documents. He used an international money transfer agency in southern Cagayan de Oro city, the records show. He had worked as a doctor in a hospital in Cagayan de Oro. He faced separate criminal complaints for alleged involvement in the abduction of six sawmill workers, two of whom were later beheaded, in Butig in Lanao del Sur Province in 2016.

July 31: A bomb exploded while soldiers were inspecting a suspicious van they had flagged down at a checkpoint after dawn near an army militia outpost in Lamitan's Colonia village on Basilan island, killing eleven people, including a soldier, the driver and five government militiamen and injuring six army scout rangers and a militiaman. The Islamic State claimed credit, saying the attacker was a Moroccan and citing a much higher death toll. Militiaman Gregorio Inso survived but lost his wife in the explosion.

August 28: A bomb hidden in a bag exploded during the night, killing two people and wounding 35, two seriously, during a celebration in Isulan in Sultan Kudarat Province. The attacker escaped when the bomb exploded as soldiers were chasing him. Police Superintendent Aldrin Gonzales gave a conflicting account, saying the bomb was placed on a motorcycle parked in front of a store near a popular night market in Isulan, which was celebrating its founding anniversary. No group claimed credit. The bomber had offered ambutan and other fruits to people to ward off suspicion as he abandoned the bag under a motorcycle, according to Brigadier General Cirilito Sobejana. The man fled on another motorcycle that had its engine running. Sobejana said that the bomb was made from a water pump, which shattered and blew steel fragments and motorcycle parts toward the night-market crowd. Authorities suspected the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters, which is aligned with ISIS.

September: Early in the month, the mayor of Ronda in central Cebu Province, Mariano Blanco, was killed by gunmen who barged into his office. President Duterte had linked him to illegal drug trafficking.

September 2: The Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters were blamed for setting off a bomb near an Internet cafe in Isulan in Sultan Kudarat Province, killing one person and wounding 15 during the night. Three of the wounded were hospitalized in serious condition.

October 1: Gunmen killed Mayor Alexander Buquing, his driver, and a police officer and wounded the mayor's wife in a nighttime attack on their SUV in Bangar in La Union Province in the northern Philippines. Buquing's wife, who serves as his vice mayor in Sudipen town, also in La Union, received head injuries. Buquing, his wife, their driver and a police officer who apparently was given a ride were on their way home to Sudipen when gunmen in a van tried to overtake them and then opened fire near a school in Bangar.

October 20: Ten gunmen killed nine members of a farmers' group resting in a hut who occupied part of a privately owned sugarcane plantation in Negros Occidental Province. Four farmers survived the attack in Sagay city. Two of the victims may have fired back at the attackers; authorities found spent pistol and shotgun casings in the area. The National Federation of Sugar Workers condemned the killings of its members, who included four women and two minors.

November: The *New York Times* reported on December 23, 2018, that gunmen ambushed a convoy of La Union Province, killing two people, including a vice mayor, and injuring eight others, including

the vice mayor's daughter, who was the incumbent mayor.

December 16: Gunmen killed Benjamin Okulto, 47, a candidate for vice mayor in Pangasinan Province.

December 19: Military Chief of Staff General Benjamin Madrigal, Jr., and police officials said 80 New People's Army rebels kidnapped two soldiers and a dozen militiamen in a pre-dawn attack on an army patrol base near Sibagat in Agusan del Sur Province. The gunmen took more than 20 assault rifles and two-way radio equipment. The 50th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of the Philippines was December 26, 2018.

December 22: The *New York Times* reported that Rodel M. Batocabe, 52, a Philippine House of Representatives member and ally of President Rodrigo Duterte, died after he was shot eight times in the head, chest, and abdomen during a gift-giving ceremony for older Filipinos in Albay Province. A police escort also was killed. Police said the attack could be related to the May 2019 elections. Batocabe was campaigning for mayor of Daraga in Albay Province.

December 31: Jihadis were suspected when a bomb was remotely detonated near a baggage counter at the entrance of the South Seas mall in Cotabato city, killing two people and wounding 21 shoppers, vendors and commuters. Authorities recovered another unexploded bomb. Major General Cirilito Sobejana said the design of the bomb was similar to those used by local Muslim militants who have pledged allegiance to the Islamic State. Government forces launched an offensive against the Daulah Islamiyah the previous week; seven militants died in the fighting.

Sri Lanka

October 28: President Maithripala Sirisena said he fired Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe on October 26 due to the alleged involvement of an unnamed Cabinet minister in a plot to assassinate him and a former defense secretary. He named former nemesis and ex-strongman Mahinda Rajapaksa to take over as prime minister and form a new government. Police informant Namal Kumara told reporters that Wickremesinghe and his Cabinet colleague former army commander Sarath Fonseka were behind the assassination plot. Sirisena had suspended Parliament on October 27.

A security guard opened fire when Rajapaksa supporters mobbed him and protested against him entering the Petroleum Ministry premises, killing one person and wounding two others.

Tajikistan

July 29: Four bicycling foreign tourists—two Americans, one Swiss, one Dutch—were killed in the Danghara region south of Dushanbe when a Daewoo sedan crashed into a group of seven foreign bicyclists and the driver and passengers got out and stabbed them. Three other bicyclists, including a Swiss woman, were injured. Officials suggested an extremist plot and detained four suspects armed with knives and guns. Police killed four suspects who were resisting arrest. ISIS said several of its soldiers attacked the “citizens of the Crusader coalition.” Local officials said the leader was from the banned Islamic Renaissance Party of Tajikistan, banned three years earlier for allegedly plotting to overthrow the government. An ISIS video showed five men sitting on a hill in front of an ISIS flag and declaring, in Russian, allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. The five said they were from Tajikistan and pledged to slaughter disbelievers in the name of Allah.

The *Washington Post* reported that the Americans were Jay Austin and Lauren Geoghegan, both 29, residents of Washington, D.C., who quit their office jobs in 2017 to bike around the world. They wrote a blog, “Simply Cycling.” New York-born Austin earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Delaware and a master's degree from Georgetown University. He worked for seven years at the Department of Housing and Urban Development. In 2012, he built a 143-square-foot “tiny home” in the District that was featured in the *Washington Post*. Geoghegan graduated in 2010 from Georgetown, majoring in government and minoring in Spanish and Arabic. She worked in Georgetown's admissions office after graduation.

Rene Wokke was from the Netherlands and Markus Hummel from Switzerland. 18072901

August 26: Ten to twelve gunmen crossed the Panj River from Afghanistan and fired a hand-held grenade launcher and automatic rifles on three forest rangers, killing two people and injuring one. 18082601

Thailand

April 9: Three bombs connected to timers and concealed in parked motorcycles injured 12 people near a small restaurant, a karaoke bar and a hotel in Sungai Kolok in Narathiwat Province on Thailand's border with Malaysia. Jihadis were suspected.

April 10: Police shot and killed two suspected jihadis who ambushed a police unit at the Yarang district police station in Pattani Province. Three police officers were wounded in the gunfight.

May 20: Thai authorities suspected that jihadis set off small bombs at two dozen locations, including

near ATMs, electricity poles and buildings, in southern Songkhla, Yala, Pattani, and Narathiwat Provinces during the night, injuring two women.

June 7: Police Major General Manas Siksamat, police chief of Narathiwat Province, said gunmen killed four male villagers who were gold panning at a river running through a rubber plantation. The victims had Muslim names and one was 16. Insurgents were suspected.

June 11: At 1 a.m., gunmen broke into a house in the Bannangsta district of Yala Province and killed five men, aged between 25 and 39, who were meeting at the home of one of the victims. Insurgents were suspected. The victims' bodies had multiple gunshot wounds to the body and head. Police found shotgun shells and bullet casings.

The previous week, gunmen on motorcycles killed Aduldej Chanae, deputy chairman of the Pattani Islamic Committee.

September 8: Lt. Col. Atipong Promnu said gunmen attacked residents in a house near a guard post in Narathiwat Province, killing two people and wounding two others.

September 11: Police said that during the night, suspected jihadis ambushed six patrolling army rangers on three motorcycles in a street in Pattani Province, killing two and wounding four.

September 19: Jihadis were suspected when gunmen armed with assault rifles ambushed a pickup truck carrying seven people returning from a hunting trip in Yala Province, killing one person and wounding four others.

September 25: The Criminal Court in Bangkok convicted nine young Muslim men, mostly students at Bangkok's Ramkhamhaeng University, of planning to set off a car bomb in the capital and belonging to an underground criminal group. The Court sentenced each to four years' imprisonment. One was also found guilty of illegal possession of explosive devices and was sentenced to six years in prison. Five defendants were acquitted. Many of the defendants said they were tortured into making false confessions. They were part of a group of 50 Thai Mus-

lims who were rounded up in joint police-military sweeps on October 10, 2016. They were released but 13 were rearrested in November 2016 along with an additional suspect.

December 26: In the evening, two small bombs exploded at a beach in Songkhla Province, one of them damaging the iconic Golden Mermaid statue, an unofficial symbol of the province. The other went off about 300 yards away, near the beach's Cat and Mouse sculpture. Police said a bomb disposal squad found and destroyed three other bombs near a trash area and under rocks near the Golden Mermaid statue.

December 27: During the night, small bombs went off in Songkhla Province. No arrests were reported.

December 28: During the night, Muslim separatists were suspected of setting off several bombs in Narathiwat Province, injuring four people. The bombs mostly targeted utility poles and caused a blackout in a village. Security forces and insurgents staged a shootout during a separatist attack on a defense outpost at a small rural village in Narathiwat.

December 29: Jihadi separatists were suspected when a civilian woman was shot dead in Pattani Province and three paramilitary soldiers were wounded in an ambush of their pickup truck in Narathiwat Province.

Vietnam

June: On July 5, 2018, *VnExpress* reported that police arrested seven people suspected of involvement in the bombing in June of a police station in Ho Chi Minh City that injured a policewoman and damaged property. Four suspects were accused of conducting terrorist activities aimed at overthrowing the "people's administration" and three were accused of illegally trading explosives. Police confiscated 22 pounds of explosives and eight homemade bombs. Deputy police chief Major General Phan Anh Minh claimed that the group collaborated with the "reactionary" Viet Nguyen Dynasty group in exile in the U.S.

AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND

Australia

May 4: Downing Centre Local Court magistrate Carolyn Huntsman convicted Moutia Elzahed, 50, the wife of ISIS recruiter Hamdi Alqudsi, under a new state law criminalizing the refusal to stand for a judge. Elzahed remained seated with her arms folded in a black niqab, gown and gloves. She was found guilty on nine charges of disrespectful behavior during previous court hearings in 2016 when she failed to rise for District Court Judge Audrey Balla. Outside the Sydney courthouse, she gave the jihadi one-finger salute. Sentencing was scheduled for June 15. Each offense carries a maximum jail term of 14 days and a 1,100 Australian dollar (\$828) fine. Her husband Hamdi Alqudsi was sentenced in 2016 to eight years in prison for helping young Australians reach Syria to fight for ISIS.

September 14: Authorities reported that people who opened boxes of strawberries purchased at supermarkets were finding sewing needles and pins stuck inside. One person inadvertently swallowed one. An Australian newspaper reported that there were seven cases in three Australian states, suggesting copycats were working separately. Queensland authorities offered 100,000 Australian dollars (U.S. \$72,000) for information about the culprit(s). Australian police said that six brands could be affected, although only three brands were recalled. The Queensland Strawberry Growers Association said it had “reason to suspect” that a disgruntled former employee was responsible, a theory not held by Queensland Acting Chief Superintendent Terry Lawrence. Queensland Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk told reporters that “those responsible could face up to 10 years’ jail, if not more, for the crimes they are committing. How could any right-minded person want to put a baby or a child or anybody’s health at risk by doing such a dreadful act?” By September 19, there were more than 100 reports of people finding needles in strawberries and other fruits in six states, although many were hoaxes or

false alarms, according to the *Australian Broadcasting Corporation*. Under proposed new laws, the maximum penalty for tampering with food would increase from 10 years in prison to 15. By then, a young boy was arrested after admitting he put needles in strawberries and would be dealt with under the “youth cautioning system.” Authorities believed he was a copycat. The federal government pledged one million Australian dollars (\$720,000) to help the industry recover.

On November 11, 2018, *AP* reported that police in Queensland State arrested My Ut Trinh, 50, in the cases of strawberry tampering. Metal was also found in a banana, an apple and a mango. She was charged with seven counts of goods contamination. Each count against her carried a maximum 10-year prison sentence. Detective John Walker of the State Crime Command said she worked in the strawberry industry near Caboolture, north of Brisbane. Prosecutors told a Brisbane court that it was workplace revenge. She was reported to be a former supervisor at the Berrylicious and Berry Obsession farm in Wamuran, north of Brisbane. *CNN* affiliate *Nine News* reported that police said she felt mistreated by colleagues and had spoken to coworkers about taking revenge. She was denied bail.

November 9: During afternoon rush hour, police in Melbourne fatally shot a knife-wielding Somali-born Australian man after he fatally stabbed one man, Sisto Malaspina, 74, and injured two other men, aged 26 and 58, on Bourke Street. The attacker punched one of the police officers through their patrol car window, according to *CNN*. He swung his knife at police before being shot in the chest. Police were responding to a report of a burning truck. The driver of a pickup truck got out of his vehicle, which then caught fire, and attacked three bystanders with a knife. The truck contained several barbecue gas cylinders. Police said the attack was linked to terrorism.

ISIS said on its *Amaq* media arm that the man was “one of Islamic State fighters” and carried out

the attack in response to ISIS calls for attacks in countries that are part of the international coalition fighting the militants in Syria and Iraq. Victoria state police Commissioner Graham Ashton said the attacker was known to the authorities; family members were “persons of interest” to police.

Markel Villasin, a witness, said a man in his 60s who later died was stabbed in the face. Malaspina died near the popular Pellegrini’s Espresso Bar he had run for more than 40 years.

The next day, police said Hassain Khalif Shire Ali, 30, whose passport was canceled in 2015 after it was learned he planned to travel to Syria, had planned to set off an explosion in Melbourne. The barbecue gas canisters’ outlet valves were open, but they did not ignite.

Ali had moved from Somalia to Australia with his family in the 1990s and was known to police and the ASIO intelligence agency for cannabis use, theft, and driving offenses. His brother, Ali Khalif Shire Ali, was on remand awaiting trial in 2019 for allegedly planning an attack. Police believed Hassain was inspired by ISIS, but did not have direct links to it.

AP reported on November 11 that a homeless man, Michael Rogers, 46, was hailed as a hero for ramming a shopping trolley at the attacker, saving lives. Social media users called Rogers “Trolleyman.” An online GoFundMe fundraiser for him by registered charity Melbourne Homeless Collective raised more than \$100,000 (\$140,000 AUD). On November 16, Rogers was served with five charges, including two counts of burglary, two counts of theft, and committing an indictable offence while on bail, relating to recent burglaries in the central Melbourne area. 18110901

November 20: Victoria Police Chief Commissioner Graham Ashton announced that three Australian citizens of Turkish descent, Hanifi Halis, 21, and brothers Samed Eriklioglu, 26, and Ertunc Eriklioglu, 30, were arrested in pre-dawn raids on their Melbourne homes and charged with planning a mass-casualty terrorist attack in Melbourne. The men’s passports had been cancelled earlier in the year because of suspicions that they intended to

fight for extremists overseas. The trio, inspired by ISIS, had communicated with encrypted messages. Victoria Police Assistant Commissioner Ross Guenther added that the trio was trying to acquire .22 caliber semi-automatic rifles. They faced life sentences. The Melbourne Magistrates Court denied bail.

December 13: CNN reported that e-mailed bomb threats were sent to locations in Australia.

December 29: Minister for Home Affairs Peter Dutton announced that the country had stripped suspected militant Neil Prakash, 27, of citizenship because he fought for ISIS in the service of a “terrorist organization” and acted “inconsistently” with his allegiance to Australia. Prakash was held in Turkey. Australia requested extradition, saying Prakash faced allegations of inciting a terror plot in his home state of Victoria. Turkey was conducting criminal proceedings against Prakash, who faced prison after he was arrested near the border with Syria in 2016 for allegedly attempting to enter Turkey with false documents. Prakash earlier admitted ISIS membership but said he had nothing to do with the group in Australia. Prakash, a former rapper from Melbourne, had featured in ISIS videos. He had been linked to several attack plans in Australia and had urged lone wolf attacks against the United States. On January 2, 2019, Australian officials insisted that Prakash had not been made stateless because he had been a dual national, although Fiji’s Immigration Department Director Nemani Vuniwaqa told the *Fiji Sun* newspaper that there was no record of Prakash obtaining Fijian citizenship.

New Zealand

September 23: CNN reported that needles were found in a punnet of strawberries on sale in an Auckland Countdown supermarket. The supermarket chain took a brand of Western Australian strawberries off its shelves.

December 13: CNN reported that e-mailed bomb threats were sent to three locations in New Zealand.

EUROPE

May 10: *AP* reported that in the next two years, more than 200 jihadi prisoners were scheduled to be released from European prisons. Some 12,000 Europeans left to fight with ISIS and al-Qaeda; about a third of those were believed to be home, mostly living freely. Some were awaiting trial, but most never faced serious charges due to insufficient evidence. France was due to free 57 prisoners; the UK 25. Belgium had freed 80 and another 44 were due in two years. Spain had released 21 of 34 returning fighters by late 2017. Bosnia and Kosovo were to release every jailed foreign fighter; Bosnia had 23 convicts. Germany issued no comprehensive figures on convictions and releases.

Albania

January 13: A TNT explosion in the morning injured eight people, including a commercial building's owner, as he was entering his vehicle in Shkoder. The ground floor was damaged. Three people were seriously injured and sent to a specialized hospital in Tirana.

June 30: Shkelzen Qordja, 31, driver for Interior Minister Fatmir Xhafaj, was found dead at his vehicle in the morning with a shot in his head and a MP5 submachine gun at hand. Two other cartridges were found inside the garage at the National Guard premises in central Tirana.

October 28: Konstantinos Kacifa, 35, an ethnic Greek, fired into the air in Bularat during an annual event to celebrate Greece's entry in World War II against Italy. He fired at approaching police cars, ran away, and hid on a nearby mountain, firing at officers. He was shot dead in a gun battle with officers. He was born in Bularat but recently lived in Athens. Police and prosecutors investigated a possible motive.

Austria

March 7: An Afghan man, 23, with a knife seriously injured a man, 67, his wife, 56, and their daughter,

17, and a man from Afghanistan, 20, at 7:45 p.m. on Praterstrasse in Vienna because "he was in a bad, aggressive mood and upset about his life's situation," according to Austrian police. The man denied that any of his attacks were politically motivated. The attacker told police he specifically sought the fourth victim because "he holds him responsible for his previous drug addiction."

April 13: The *Austrian Press Agency* reported that the Vienna state court convicted an Austrian man of Albanian descent, 19, of involvement in plans for two Islamic extremist attacks in Germany, one of which was supposed to be carried out by a 12-year-old boy against a Christmas market in Ludwigshafen in 2016. The other plot involved an attack on the United States' Ramstein Air Base with a girl, 16. He was convicted of two counts of attempted incitement to murder as a terrorist crime, membership in a terrorist organization and other offenses, and sentenced to nine years. He was arrested in Vienna in January 2017 following tips from German authorities. He said he became an ISIS supporter following a previous jail term for robbery. He was represented by defense lawyer Wolfgang Blaschitz.

Belgium

January 23: Police shot a man, 28, armed with a knife in the main entrance hall of the St. Pieters train station in Ghent during the evening, seriously injuring him. The day before, Belgium had dropped its terrorism threat warning from the second-highest level to the second-lowest. Interior Minister Jan Jambon later told RTBF that "there is no link to any terrorist motive. He is a known refugee, of Afghan nationality who is not thought to be radicalized." The Afghan refugee had mental problems and was not a known extremist.

May 29: *NPR*, *CNN*, *VTM*, *RTBF*, and *AP* reported that at 10:30 a.m., Belgian national Benjamin Herman, 36, approached from behind female police offi-

cers Lucile Garcia, 45, and Soraya Belkacemi, 53, near a cafe on the Boulevard d'Avroy in Liege, yelled "Allahu Akbar" several times, stabbed them with a knife, stole their weapons, and shot them to death. He then shot dead Cyril Vangrieken, 22, studying to become a primary school teacher, in a vehicle as he was leaving a parking space outside Waha High School. The attacker took one or two hostages, including a cleaning woman, inside the school. Peloton anti-banditisme authorities shot Herman to death when he emerged from the school and fired at police, wounding four of them in the legs. Prosecutors suggested it was a terrorist attack aimed at police.

Police said Herman was an inmate who had been granted a 48 hour release the previous day. His criminal record included theft, assault, and drug offenses. He had been in jail since 2003. He had been mentioned indirectly in three reports on radicalism. Herman had been allowed 13 previous two-day prison leaves to prepare him for his scheduled release in 2020.

Police said the night before, Herman killed a man who did prison time with him, hitting him on the head with a blunt object.

Interior Ministry Jan Jambon later told *RTL* that the female hostage, Imaankaf Darifa, may have talked Herman down and helped to avoid more deaths in the school. She told him "You are in a school here. You cannot come in a school. It is not right what you are doing." He told her he would not harm her when she answered that she was a Muslim. She was hospitalized for shock.

Officer Belkacemi was the mother of twin daughters, 13, who earlier lost their police officer father.

On May 30, ISIS claimed credit, calling Herman a "soldier of the caliphate."

June 30: *AP* reported on July 2 that on June 30, authorities arrested a Belgian married couple of Iranian heritage, Amir Saadouni, 38, and Nasimeh Naami, 33, on charges of attempted terrorist murder and preparing a terrorist act for preparing an extremist attack in France against the Iranian opposition there. They were believed to have planned a bombing against a meeting of the National Council of Resistance of Iran, which is led by Mujahedin-e Khalq (the People's Mujahedin), an Iranian opposition group, in Villepinte. The Antwerp-based couple was detained in their Mercedes, which contained about half a kilogram of TATP explosives and a detonator hidden in a toiletries bag. Police detained a suspected accomplice in France who was targeting the event near Paris, which was attended by U.S. President Donald Trump's attorney, Rudy Giuliani, according to the *Guardian*. Police detained Assadollah Assadi, 47, an Iranian diplomat

in Vienna, during a traffic stop of a rental car in Bavaria near Aschaffenburg, Germany on July 1. On July 3, Matthias Forenbacher, a spokesman for Austria's foreign minister, said that Iran was notified the man's diplomatic status would be canceled within 48 hours. On July 11, German prosecutors charged Assadollah Assadi with activity as a foreign agent and conspiracy to commit murder by contacting the couple and giving them a device containing 500 grams of TATP during a meeting in Luxembourg in late June. Belgium requested extradition.

AP reported on October 1, 2018, that the Bamberg state court approved the extradition of an Iranian diplomat wanted in Belgium on suspicion he was part of a failed plot to bomb an Iranian opposition People's Mujahedeen of Iran (MEK) rally in Villepinte, near Paris. The court held that diplomatic immunity did not apply because Assadi was on holiday in Germany when he was arrested, and not in transit between Iran and Austria. Germany had charged Assadi with activity as a foreign agent and conspiracy to commit murder, alleging that he contacted the couple in Belgium to attack an annual meeting of an exiled Iranian opposition group.

Assadi was registered as a diplomat at the Iranian Embassy in Vienna since 2014. Prosecutors said he was a member of the Iranian Ministry of Intelligence and Security intelligence service, whose tasks "primarily include the intensive observation and combating of opposition groups inside and outside of Iran." The *Washington Post* reported that some observers suggested Assadi was a MOIS Chief of Station.

Belgian authorities accused Assadi of being part of the alleged plot reportedly aimed at setting off explosives at a huge annual rally of the Iranian opposition Mujahedeen-e-Khalq (MEK) in France, and wanted him extradited.

On October 2, 2018, French authorities imposed a six-month freeze on the assets of the internal security section of Iran's Intelligence Ministry and those of two Iranians—Assadollah Assadi and Saeid Hashemi Moghadam. Observers suggested that Tehran was behind an alleged plot to bomb an Iranian exile group's rally near Paris.

The *Washington Post* reported on October 12, 2018, that police surrounded Assadi's rented van after he pulled over at a gas station on the autobahn. He was traveling with his wife and two sons.

September 17: Police in Brussels shot and critically wounded a man who attacked one of the officers with a knife, slightly wounding the officer in the head. The individual pulled the knife when police tried to get him to move away from some govern-

ment offices. Police fired three shots, hitting him in the body and leg. The attack occurred near a park where migrants camp while their applications for residency permits are assessed nearby.

November 20: Before dawn, an assailant stabbed a policeman near the Grand Place in Brussels. The victim sustained non-life-threatening injuries. Police shot the attacker, seriously injuring him. Police were investigating possible motives, including terrorism.

Bosnia-Herzegovina

November 22: During the evening, police in Sarajevo's airport arrested a person suspected of affiliation with Islamic extremists and terrorism. He was accused of "organizing a terrorist group" and "preparing a criminal act" linked to terrorism. He had stayed in Iraq and Syria since 2013 as a member of extremist groups.

Cyprus

July 3: A Cypriot court ordered the extradition within ten days of a Greek soldier, 23, suspected of links to a Greek anarchist terrorist group. He was serving with the Greek military contingent on Cyprus. Cypriot police arrested him on July 2 based on a European arrest warrant issued by Greece. *AP* reported that he had sent 50 euros via a money transfer service to a man in Greece suspected of belonging to the Conspiracy Cells of Fire.

Czech Republic

February 28: State prosecutor Martin Bily announced that authorities had detained a Czech man suspected of carrying out two attacks on trains while blaming them on jihadis. The man was suspected of cutting down two trees that fell on train tracks in 2017 near Mlada Boleslav, 30 miles north of Prague. Two passenger trains hit the trees in June and July 2017, causing no injuries. Bily said the Czech distributed pamphlets with threats of terror attacks planned on Czech territory. He said the man wanted to incite fear of Muslims and terror attacks among Czechs. A court ruled the previous week that the man would be held in detention.

Denmark

March 19: Copenhagen police announced they were searching for two people believed to have fire-bombed the Turkish Embassy in the early morning, causing minor damage but no injuries. 18031901

June 26: A Copenhagen suburban court convicted two men and two women of planning to join ISIS in Syria and sentenced them to three years each. This was the first case in Denmark in which women were convicted of intending to join jihadis. Three of them were to be deported after serving their sentence. The court ordered that the two dual citizens should have their Danish nationality withdrawn. The men were Danish-Moroccan and Danish-Algerian. One of the women was an Afghan citizen. The other woman held only Danish citizenship. Three of those convicted, all aged 18–22, were arrested in March 2017 in Turkey. The fourth was arrested in Denmark. All appealed the court's ruling.

July 14: Authorities arrested a Turkish Kurdish man, 58, accused by Turkey of being a member of the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK). *AP* reported on August 1, 2018, that Denmark's top prosecution authority rejected extradition to Turkey because he could face persecution, torture, degrading treatment or punishment. He was released.

September 26: Copenhagen police and Denmark's PET security service arrested two people under Denmark's anti-terror laws on suspicion of buying drones bound for ISIS in Syria and Iraq. Raids were also conducted in greater Copenhagen.

September 28: Police officers conducted a nationwide manhunt, briefly cutting off the Zealand island, where Copenhagen sits, from the rest of the country and from Germany and Sweden. They closed the Nyborg motorway after the last exit before the Great Belt Bridge. Police said the manhunt was connected with an alleged threat on the lives of "specific individuals." Copenhagen police spokesman Joergen Bergen Skov said police were alerted by the Danish security service. The operation was launched after police noticed a stolen, Swedish-registered car, near the home of an Iranian opposition activist, that sped up when officers were spotted.

AP reported on October 30, 2018, that Danish PET security service chief Finn Borch Andersen said that the police operation stemmed from an alleged Iranian plot to kill an opposition activist and announced the arrest on October 21 of a Norwegian citizen of Iranian descent for alleged involvement in the assassination plot. The suspect was being held in pre-trial custody until November 8. Borch Andersen said intelligence agencies in Sweden and Norway cooperated with the arrest. The suspect was seen taking photos of the residences of members of the Arab Struggle Movement for the Liberation of Ahwaz (ASMLA) in Ringsted. Tehran earlier blamed the group for a terrorist attack on a military parade in Ahwaz, Iran on September 22 that killed 25 people. ASMLA condemned the violence and said it was not involved.

November 7: Police spokesman Bjoerke Kierkegaard announced the arrest of three members of the Iranian opposition group Arab Struggle Movement for the Liberation of Ahwaz on suspicion of having praised those behind a September 22 terrorist attack in Iran that killed 25 people. They could face fines or up to two years in prison. Tehran blamed ASMLA for the attack; the group said it was not involved.

December 21: Prosecutor Anders Riisager said a man, 31, was charged with planning to set off one or more bombs in Copenhagen and stabbing random people with kitchen knives. He “had participated in ordering components that would be used to produce one or more bombs.” The suspect worked with accomplice Dieab Khadigah, who was sentenced by a German court in July 2017 to 6½ years in prison. Khadigah was arrested in Germany as he tried to enter Denmark with a backpack containing 17,000 matches, 17 batteries, fireworks, two kitchen knives and six walkie-talkies that the suspect had ordered. The suspect’s trial was scheduled for January 22, 2019.

France

January 25: Researchers Fernando Reinares and Carola Garcia-Calvo reported in the January *CTC Sentinel* that the Eiffel Tower may have been among the targets of the ISIS cell that attacked Barcelona’s Las Ramblas and a beachside town, killing 16 people in August 2017. Video of a trip to Paris was found in a destroyed hideout. The safehouse blew up as the terrorists were assembling explosives. Members of the cell traveled to Paris before the attack, for reasons investigators have not determined.

February 25: Interior Minister Gerald Collomb told *CNews Television* that authorities thwarted two potential terror attacks in France since January. One attack targeting a major sports center; the other French soldiers. Several radicalized suspects were arrested and jailed.

March 23: After dropping his sister off at school, at 10:13 a.m., Morocco-born Redouane Lakdim, 26, a petty criminal and small-time drug dealer, hijacked a car, killed the driver and injured another person in the car. He then tried to run over and then fired six shots at four members of the national C.R.S. police force who were jogging in Carcassonne, wounding an officer in the shoulder. The police were not in uniform but wore workout clothes with police insignia.

BFM-TV, *NPR*, *CNN* and *Reuters* reported that Lakdim, claiming allegiance to ISIS and yelling “Allahu Akbar,” took several hostages at the Super U

supermarket in rural Trèbes later that morning. He killed three people and injured 16 others. The attacker demanded the release of Salah Abdeslam, the suspected mastermind of the November 13, 2015, Paris attacks. Police Colonel Arnarud Beltrame took the place of Julie, one of the female employees taken hostage, but died the next day in a local hospital from several stab wounds “including a very severe injury in the trachea and larynx,” according to prosecutors.

Beltrame had left his cellphone on to aid police in determining what was going on inside the supermarket. Police stormed the supermarket when they heard shots on the phone and killed the terrorist after a three-hour standoff. Police found the vehicle from Carcassonne at the Super U site. Inside the market they found three bombs, a handgun, and a hunting knife.

Lakdim and his family arrived in France in 1992, soon after his birth in Morocco. Lakdim lived in Carcassonne. He became a naturalized French citizen in 2004 at age 12, shortly after his father naturalized. He had been under surveillance since 2014, when he was put on the Fiche S list of individuals suspected of radicalization because of suspected links with local Salafist circles.

The ISIS *Amaq* news service called Lakdim a “soldier” and claimed credit for the Carcassonne and Trèbes attacks.

One male, 17, who “shared life” with Lakdim, was detained for alleged criminal association in relation with a terrorist enterprise. A woman close to Lakdim was taken into custody on the same grounds. On March 26, a French prosecutor said Lakdim’s girlfriend, 18, was a radicalized convert and shouted “Allahu akbar” when she was arrested. She said she converted at age 16 but denied “having been informed and associated with the deadly project of her boyfriend,” according to prosecutors. She posted online a Quran verse “indicating that infidels were promised to hell” just a few hours before the attacks.

AP reported on October 16, 2018, that Martine Mazieres, whose husband, Jean, was killed, lost her parents in flash floods that killed at least 13 people in Trebes in southwest France.

On October 20, French regional media reported that three people were charged with criminal association with terrorists, and one was also accused of possessing arms in connection with a terrorist enterprise for aiding Lakdim. They were among six people arrested in raids during the week. The other three were released.

March 29: In the morning, a male driver circled the military barracks in Varcès-Allières-et-Risset, in the southeastern Isère region, yelling death threats from his car window at several groups of jogging French

soldiers from the 27th Mountain Infantry Brigade in the French Alps, then tried to run over four of them, according to brigade chief Colonel Alain Didier. The driver fled. No one was injured. Authorities soon arrested a man and woman. He was picked up in his Grenoble home; she in Echirolles, a suburb of Grenoble. She owned the car used in the attack. Later reports said the driver suddenly swerved to avoid hitting the soldiers, and that it was not a terrorist attack, according to Grenoble prosecutor Jean-Yves Coquillat. The man had 25 convictions for petty crime, twice was in prison, and served four years. He showed no sign of jihadi radicalization.

April 22: Police evacuated tourists and others from the Mont-Saint-Michel abbey and monument after a visitor apparently threatened to attack security services. Police failed to find the suspect despite deploying three helicopters.

May 12: CNN and AP reported that at 9 p.m., a Frenchman born in Chechnya in November 1997 and yelling “Allahu Akbar” stabbed five people with a box knife, killing a Parisian man, 29, gravely wounding two, and lightly injuring two, in the touristy 2nd arrondissement, a ten-minute walk from the Paris Palais Garnier Opera House. Two men and two women were injured. A man, 34, from Luxembourg was given emergency treatment at a local hospital. Three police tasered the attacker to no effect. Police fired two shots, killing the attacker on rue Monsigny. Police detained his parents in the northern 18th district of Paris for questioning, releasing them on May 15. ISIS said “the person who executed the stabbing in Paris is a soldier of the Islamic State” who acted in response to calls to attack anti-ISIS coalition countries. The attacker was on a police anti-terror watch list of people suspected of having radicalized views and posing a potential security risk, but had no criminal record. AP reported that *Amaq* released a 2½-minute-long video of a Francophone man who appeared to be the Paris knifing suspect urging French citizens to pressure their government if they want attacks to end. French President Emmanuel Macron called him a terrorist. Chechnya’s president identified him as Khamzat Azimov, a nursing student. Police arrested one of Azimov’s Chechen friends, Abdul Hakim A., 20, in Strasbourg. Azimov and A. were on the same watch list. Chechen President Ramzan Kadyrov said that Azimov had received French citizenship and held a Russian passport until he was 14. A police official said Azimov did not have ID documents with him but was identified via DNA. 18051201

On May 17, the Paris prosecutor’s office charged Abdul Hakim A. with association with terrorist criminals with plans to attack people. He was put

in provisional detention pending further investigation. Anti-terrorism prosecutor Francois Molins said that two female friends of the men were arrested earlier in the day in the Paris region. *AFP* reported that the women were released on May 19. One was Ines Hamza, 19 a radicalized woman who married Hakim A. before trying to leave for Syria in January 2017. Abdul Hakim A. was placed on a second alert list in October for prevention of radicalization with a terrorist character. Azimov was placed on the list containing thousands of names because of his links to a young woman that Abdul Hakim A. married before she tried to go to Syria. The prosecutor said, “Abdul Hakim A. came to Paris from Jan. 8–12, 2017, accompanied by Khamzat Azimov, in order to get a religious wedding with this young woman, the eve of her departure for Syria.”

May 13: AP reported on June 15, 2018, that the Ministry of the Interior claimed that on May 13, police foiled a jihadi attack on a French swingers club after the arrest of a man who was “known for his radicalization” in the Loire region town of Chateauroux. He was handed preliminary charges linked to the foiled attack and imprisoned. Police found a bomb in his home. He was born in 1980. He said he wanted to use it against a swingers club.

May 16: The SNPFO prison union reported that a man, 21, on a radicalization watch list escaped from prison authorities in Brest, Brittany, during a transfer to a hospital. He escaped from the transfer car and ran into another car that was waiting for him with “at least two people on board.” The prisoner was in jail for theft and not for terror-related offenses. He was on his way to an emergency eye exam when he violently escaped from three guards. Authorities said on May 17 that the driver who helped the radical escape had surrendered to police.

May 18: Authorities announced the arrest in Paris’s 18th arrondissement a week earlier of Mohamed M., an Egyptian man born in 1998, and charged with association with a terrorist enterprise. Authorities found explosive powder and tutorials on how to make explosives and poison from materials such as ricin. Another man, also born in 1998, was arrested but later released. One of them was a college student. Interior Minister Gerard Collomb said the two men arrested were brothers, but other officials said later they were not. Authorities spotted them on social media, communicating on the encrypted messaging app *Telegram*.

June 8: The Paris prosecutor’s office issued preliminary charges of war crimes and murder in connection with a terrorist enterprise, *inter alia*, against Ahmed H., an Iraqi asylum-seeker who was arrested

in Normandy in March 2018. The media reported that he was a senior ISIS figure. *Le Monde* reported that H. was suspected of involvement in a 2014 attack in Tikrit, Iraq.

June 12: The Interior Ministry announced that an anti-terrorist judge had charged two men, aged 21 and 22, with preliminary charges over preparations for an unspecified attack in the name of ISIS. The duo were arrested on June 9 in the Seine-et-Marne region, near Paris. Police searches on property linked to the suspects found knives, a detonator and ISIS propaganda material.

June 17: A woman yelled “Allahu akbar” and stabbed two people with a box cutter in a supermarket in La Seyne-sur-Mer. One customer was injured in the chest and a woman working the cash register was injured less seriously. Prosecutors said the attacker could have mental health problems.

June 24: Police detained ten far-right people suspected of targeting Muslims. *Le Parisien* reported that potential targets included radical imams, jihadi prison inmates or veiled women chosen at random.

June 27: The Paris prosecutor’s office requested an investigating judge to file preliminary charges against ten people, aged from 32 to 69 including one woman, allegedly involved in the extreme-right Operational Action Forces group whose goal was to “fight the Islamic peril” and was working to expand in France. The ten were detained around France, including on Corsica, over the weekend. Authorities found an array of weapons and potential bomb-making equipment. *AP* reported that the group proposed combat and survivalist training. The next day, the judge issued preliminary charges, including “criminal terrorist conspiracy.” Six were placed in detention and four were released under judicial supervision.

July 3: Greenpeace crashed a drone decked out to resemble a tiny Superman into a French nuclear plant in Bugey to highlight the lack of security around the facility.

A court freed from detention with judicial supervision Guy S., a man suspected of leading an extreme-right group, and an alleged group member. The duo were among ten people handed preliminary charges the previous week for alleged participation in the group, which aimed to “fight the Islamic peril.” Six of the ten originally detained were kept in custody. The Paris prosecutor’s office planned to appeal. Authorities said they feared the group planned a violent act against undetermined targets.

July 16: Algeria’s official APS news agency reported that France expelled Algerian-born Djamel Beghal, 52, to stand trial in Algeria for a 2003 conviction

in absentia. A French court convicted him in 2005 in a U.S. Embassy attack plot and in 2010 for helping an inmate try to escape. He was linked to the two men behind the deadly 2015 attacks on a French newsroom in Paris and a Paris kosher grocery store.

August 23: *UPI*, *AP* and *BFM-TV* reported that a man in his 30s yelled “Allahu Akbar” and stabbed to death his mother and sister and gravely injured an unrelated woman on a neighborhood street in Trappes before being shot to death by police as he exited his mother’s house. French Interior Minister Gerard Collomb said he had “serious psychiatric problems” and did not attribute the attack to terrorism, despite an ISIS *Amaq* claim of responsibility. Police said he was carrying several knives and had been on a terrorism watch list for two years.

September 14: Police in Nimes arrested a man in his 30s who steered his car toward a crowd, lightly injuring two people. His car was stopped by road barriers at 1:30 a.m. The local *Midi Libre* newspaper said bystanders prevented the man from fleeing. Police reported that he was heard at the scene shouting “Allahu akbar.”

October 2: Some 200 police officers searched a dozen homes and the headquarters of the Muslim religious association Centre Zahra France in Grande-Synthe, an association based outside Dunkirk, in an anti-terror operation. Police said the association has been “particularly followed due to marked support by its leaders for movements advocating ideas contrary to the values of the (French) Republic.” Police confiscated weapons and detained three people. The building houses the Shi’ite Federation of France, the Anti-Zionist Party and other groups. The assets of the groups and their four leaders were frozen. The three groups are under Zahra France’s wing. One of Zahra France’s leaders, Yahia Gouasmi, 68, is president of the Anti-Zionist Party. In 2010, he met with the leader of the Iranian-backed Hizballah at its base in Lebanon. In 2009, he met in Tehran with then-Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who predicted Israel’s demise.

November 6: *CNN* and *BFM-TV* reported that authorities arrested six far right suspects believed involved in a plan to attack French President Emmanuel Macron. The DGSJ said the six people were arrested in Isère, southeast of Lyon; Moselle, on the border with Germany and Luxembourg; and Ille-et-Vilaine, in the northwest near Rennes. *AP* added on November 8 that a French judge extended the detention of the six suspects without formal charges.

November 12: German federal prosecutors announced that France had extradited Ozkan T., 31, a

Turkish man, on charges of supporting a banned Kurdish organization. T. was arrested in July in France on a European warrant issued by Germany accusing him of supporting a terrorist organization. He was accused of working with four others, all arrested in Germany in June, to kidnap a former member of the banned Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), to convince him to work for it again. Prosecutors claimed the group abused the man before releasing him.

November 13: Interior Minister Christophe Castaner said French security services foiled six terror attacks in 2018.

November 13: A Syrian man poured wine on himself and tried to self-immolate on a high-speed TGV train while waving a phone showing images of armed combatants. A soldier and police officer, both off duty, tackled him. Police arrested him on a potential charge of condoning terrorism. The train was traveling from Lille to Montpellier. *Le Progres* newspaper reported that the wine was a rosé. The man became angry when a conductor asked him for a ticket, which he lacked.

December 11: CNN, the *Washington Post*, and AP reported that a gunman entered the perimeter of the Christmas market by the Corbeau Bridge around 8 p.m., heading toward the Rue des Orfèvres in Strasbourg, the self-proclaimed "Christmas Capital." The shooter killed two people (other reports said four were killed) and injured 13, seven seriously. Another person was left brain dead; the victim died on December 13. Paris Prosecutor Rémy Heitz said the man attacked victims with a handgun and a knife. Interior Minister Christophe Castaner saluted three people who tried to stop the gunman, including a woman who was stabbed. Witnesses said the attacker had yelled "Allahu Akbar." He exchanged gunfire with police, wounding a soldier, then hopped into a taxi to Neudorf in another part of the city, where he grew up. *The Guardian* reported on December 16 that a fifth person, a Polish national, died. An Italian journalist, a Thai tourist, an Afghan mechanic and a French national died earlier.

The Thai Foreign Ministry announced that Thai citizen Anupong Suebsamarn, 45, was killed. He had been traveling with his wife. The website of the *Khao Sod* newspaper said he was the owner of a noodle factory in Chachoengsao Province, east of Bangkok, where he also sold clothes in the garment district. The couple had planned to visit Paris, but instead went to Strasbourg to avoid the violent "yellow vest" protests.

ANSA and *La Repubblica* reported that Italian *Europhonica* radio journalist Antonio Megalizzi, 29, was hit by a bullet at the base of his cranium. He was in Strasbourg to cover a session of the European

Parliament, which was locked down. Megalizzi hailed from Trento, Italy, and was working on a master's degree, focusing on European institutions. He died of his wounds on December 14, the fourth victim to perish.

Police identified the shooter as Cherif Cherkatt, variant Chekatt, 29, who was born in Strasbourg. They tried to arrest the French gunman, who was on a Fiche S list of people suspected of radicalization, the morning before the attack. *BFM* reported that the suspect, who was wounded in the arm by police, remained at large. He grew up with six siblings in Strasbourg, worked for local authorities after leaving school and had been unemployed since 2011. German Interior Ministry spokeswoman Eleonore Petermann said that authorities had no information on links between Cherkatt, who previously spent prison time in Germany for robbery, and Islamic extremists. Paris Prosecutor Rémy Heitz said Cherkatt had 27 criminal convictions in France, Germany and Switzerland. His first conviction was at age 13. A district court in Singen said he was sentenced to prison in France in 2008 and in Basel, Switzerland in 2013 for various robberies. He was convicted in Germany in 2016 and sentenced to two years and three months in prison for breaking into a dental practice and a pharmacy. The robberies took place in Mainz, near Frankfurt, in 2012 and in Engen, near the Swiss border, in 2016. *DPA* reported that he was deported to France in 2017. He earlier told a court that he had traveled extensively and had spent four years in prison. Neighbors said he was destabilized by his time in prison.

The Prosecutor's Office opened an investigation for murder and attempted murder in relation to a terrorist enterprise. Police deployed 720 security officers to search for Cherkatt. Police took Cherkatt's parents and two of his brothers into custody. The family members were soon released.

In a search of Cherkatt's apartment in the morning, hours before the attack, police found a grenade, a rifle and four knives. They had wanted to detain him in an investigation for suspected murder.

The *Washington Post* reported on December 12 that President Trump tweeted "Another very bad terror attack in France. We are going to strengthen our borders even more. Chuck and Nancy must give us the votes to get additional Border Security." The posting followed an on-camera clash in the Oval Office with House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) and Senate Minority Leader Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.) regarding funding for Trump's proposed border wall with Mexico.

Police arrested a fifth person, identified as a member of Cherkatt's "entourage" but not a family member, on December 13.

During the night of December 13, security forces,

including the elite Raid squad, conducted an operation in the Strasbourg neighborhood where Cherkatt was last seen. Police conducted the operation on a “supposition only” that the suspect could have been hiding in a building in the area. Security forces said they hoped to catch him “as soon as possible,” no matter whether he was dead or alive, and “put an end to the manhunt.”

Interior Minister Christophe Castaner said later that day that three police officers conducting a search killed Cherkatt after he fired on them when they tried to arrest him in the Neudorf neighborhood. He was armed with a pistol and a knife. *NBC News* reported that a police helicopter using thermal imaging spotted him in a warehouse. Two Neudorf residents had also tipped off police.

ISIS said via its *Amaq* news service that Cherkatt was an ISIS soldier.

By December 14, seven people were in police custody. One person was scheduled to appear before a judge on December 17. The man was suspected of supplying Cherkatt’s weapon. Two more people suspected of “playing a role in supplying the firearm” were arrested on December 17. On December 18, the individual was charged with criminal association with terrorists and possessing and supplying arms in connection with a terrorist enterprise.

France 2 television channel on December 15 interviewed Rouadja Rouag and French-Algerian Abdelkrim Chekatt, the terrorist’s divorced parents. He said his son subscribed to ISIS views.

On December 17, media reports suggested that Polish journalist Barto Orent-Niedzielski, 36, fought Cherkatt and stopped him from entering a crowded club, possibly preventing more deaths. Orent-Niedzielski lived in the city and worked at the European Parliament. Polish President Andrzej Duda tweeted “I knew him by sight. I am shocked. I had not realized that he was the one mortally wounded protecting other people. Honor to his memory. RIP.”

On December 22, a French judicial official said investigators at Cherkatt’s home found a video stored on a USB key in which he claimed allegiance to ISIS. 18121101

December 20: Kamel Daoudi, who was convicted in 2005 for a plot to bomb the U.S. Embassy in Paris and had been living under house arrest since 2008, was accused of violating the terms of his house arrest and faced three years in prison. He must report three times a day at a police station in western France near his current home. He was late twice during the summer.

Georgia

October 25: A Hungarian Wizz Air Airbus A320 flight from Kutaisi, Georgia to Warsaw, Poland made an emergency landing in Bucharest, Romania in the afternoon because of a bomb threat. Henri Coanda International Airport spokesman Valentin Iordache said that the 173 passengers were evacuated so that the plane could be searched for five hours. He said a woman phoned the bomb threat to Georgia’s Kutaisi International Airport.

Germany

January 7: Katja Schlenkermann-Pitts, a spokeswoman for Aachen prosecutors, said several shots were fired at Amed SK soccer club German-Turkish player Deniz Naki’s car on the A4 highway during the night. Naki was visiting his family in Germany. He told *Die Welt* that he was targeted because of his political role in Turkey. In 2017, he was given an 18-month suspended sentence in Turkey on accusations of terrorist propaganda for the banned Kurdistan Workers’ Party (PKK).

January 9: The Federal Constitutional Court stopped the deportation of a German-born Turkish man convicted in 2015 in Berlin of supporting Junad al-Sham in Syria with money and other aid, saying a lower court did not properly consider whether he could be tortured if sent to Turkey. He was ordered deported to Turkey in 2016 and appealed.

Prosecutors charged a Syrian man, 37, with promoting ISIS, obtaining bomb-making instructions and other crimes when he posted videos on social media between July and December 2016 in which he urged support for ISIS and attempted to solicit recruits. In another posting, he praised the killing of Jordanian author Nahed Hattar, a prominent critic of ISIS, which prosecutors said constituted incitement. Police found manuals for making rifle silencers, explosives and detonators at the man’s home and office at the Technical University of Darmstadt. He was arrested in February 2017. Prosecutor Alexander Badle said the defendant tried to recruit a fellow inmate, who he believed to be a Muslim, to conduct a bombing to be financed from Qatar. After learning the inmate was a Christian, the suspect is alleged to have threatened to kill him if he went to police. The Syrian faced five years for “recruitment or support for a foreign terrorist organization.”

January 18: Berlin’s district court convicted an Algerian man, Fayssal M.B., 32, of supporting the terrorist organization ISIS by helping plan the smuggling of a would-be fighter to ISIS-held territory in Syria and sentenced M.B. to one year and nine months in prison. Judges held that in Sep-

tember 2015 he participated in a chat room that ordered the Turkey-based man to ISIS in Syria. Berlin resident M.B. was appealing his May 2017 conviction in May 2017 of supporting ISIS in a separate case and sentenced to two years and nine months.

Federal prosecutors at the Munich state court filed charges of membership in a terrorist organization, war crimes and violation of war weapons control laws against Afghan national Omaid N., a suspected member of the Afghan Taliban, for participating in the killing of an Afghan police officer. Prosecutors said he joined the Taliban in 2013, underwent training, recruited new members and led a weapons transport. He was accused of beating an Afghan police officer, then shooting him with a Kalashnikov assault rifle. N. arrived in Germany in late 2013 and was arrested in May 2017.

January 26: Prosecutors charged Nigerian man Amaechi Fred O., 27, on allegations of involvement in multiple killings in Nigeria as a Boko Haram member. Authorities arrested him on January 24 in southern Germany and charged him with membership in a terrorist organization. He allegedly joined BH in 2013 and was accused of participation in four attacks on Nigerian civilians during his year with the group, including two on schools and one on a village where he allegedly “killed multiple people himself.”

February 1: *ABC News* and *AP* reported that federal prosecutors charged three Syrian brothers—Ahmed K., 51; Sultan K., 44; and Mustafa K., 42—with membership in a terrorist organization and other crimes, alleging they fought for the Nusra Front in Ras al-Ayn, Syria starting in late 2012 and served as guards at a checkpoint in the city. Ahmed K. and Sultan K. were accused of selling fuel and food to raise money for the group. Mustafa K. was alleged to have allowed a sniper post to be set up on the roof of his house.

February 13: Authorities in Eschwege arrested an Iraqi, 17, after allegedly contacting senior members of ISIS. *Bild* reported that the Iraqi, who came to Germany in 2015 as a refugee, was suspected of preparing an attack, and allegedly obtained instructions for building an explosive device using a remote-controlled car. *DPA* reported that authorities seized a mobile phone and a computer after searching the suspect's home.

February 15: Authorities in Hesse State arrested Somali Abduqaadir A., 20, on suspicion of al-Shabaab membership since 2012, attempted murder and accessory to murder. Prosecutors said he underwent weapons training, took part in the killing of a person at a mosque, and attempted to kill a member of the Somali government, who survived the attack. Al-Shabaab detained him for failing to

carry out the killing. He fled Somalia and reached Germany in 2014.

February 26: Prosecutors announced the detention the previous week of a Syrian, 26, upon his arrival at Frankfurt airport on allegations of membership in and fighting for the ultraconservative Ahrar al-Sham group in Syria since 2013 or 2014. He entered Germany in 2015 as an asylum-seeker, left in the summer of 2017, and was arrested when trying to reenter the country.

March 1: Berlin State Court began the trial of two Syrians, Abdulmalk A., 31, and Anas Ibrahim A.S., 26, for membership in a terrorist organization and fighting with Islamic extremist organizations in Syria. They arrived in Germany as refugees in 2015. A. was accused of joining the Nusra Front in 2012 and becoming a commander, taking part in the capture of gas fields and Tabqa. He later joined ISIS and was put in charge of a strategically important dam near the city. A.S. was accused of joining the Nusra Front in 2012 and participating in the takeover of an ammunition depot.

March 7: The Dresden regional court sentenced eight Germans, including a woman, aged between 20 and 40, to between four and ten years in prison for forming the far-right terrorist Freital Group, attempted murder and carrying out bomb attacks on asylum-seeker facilities and left-wing political targets. *DPA* reported that ringleaders Timo S., 29, and Patrick F., 26, were sentenced to ten and nine-and-one-half years in prison, respectively. The woman, Maria K., 29, was sentenced to five-and-one-half years. Justin S., 18 years at the time of the crimes, was sentenced to four years in prison. The other four were sentenced to between five and eight years. The group conducted several attacks in 2015, including bombing the car of a Left party politician and a Left party office in Freital, as well as two bombings of refugee homes in which windows were blown out and one asylum-seeker suffered facial cuts. The defendants had been in custody since April 2016. Prosecutors said the defendants used powerful firecrackers from the Czech Republic that are banned in Germany to make pipe bombs and other improvised explosive devices.

March 22: Federal prosecutors charged German-Algerian dual national Samir K., 32, with supporting a terrorist organization over allegations that he aided ISIS in Syria and Iraq. He was arrested on March 21 in Baden-Wuerttemberg after a series of searches in the southwestern state, as well as in Brandenburg, Hamburg and Lower Saxony. Prosecutors said he organized email, *Telegram*, *Twitter*, *WhatsApp* and *Facebook* accounts under aliases for four ISIS members between 2015 and 2017. Militants from Germany maintained “comparative communication”

with other members of IS and distributed messages on the Internet.

March 28: DPA reported that police searched the homes in the states of Saxony, Lower Saxony and Bavaria of ten people suspected of providing support to a far-right extremist group. Authorities confiscated weapons, computer storage devices and Nazi propaganda material but made no arrests. Authorities suspected that the three women and seven men, aged 19 to 53, supported the Freital Group.

April 7: CNN reported that at 3:27 p.m., a delivery van crashed into a crowd near the Kiepenkerl pub, a restaurant with an open-air terrace in Muenster, killing two and wounding 20 people, six with life-threatening injuries. The dead were a woman, 51, from Lueneburg County and a man, 65, from Broken County. Some of the injured were from the Netherlands. DPA quoted police as saying the German driver killed himself with a shot to the head. Police were investigating reports that two other perpetrators fled from the van. Police found a suspicious object inside the van; police found illegal firecrackers which were disguised as a fake bomb, a fake pistol and his gun. *Sueddeutsche Zeitung* reported that authorities believed there was no terrorist motive and the driver was a middle-aged German man who had psychological issues that were brought to police attention in 2014 and 2016. Police searched the suspect's apartment for explosives. The *Washington Post* reported that a senior German security official said that investigators believed the attacker was the 48-year-old industrial designer in whose name the van was registered and that he had recently tried to take his life. Prosecutor Elke Adomeit said there had been three previous court procedures in the western city of Muenster and one in Arnsberg in 2015 and 2016 involving the van driver. The cases involved threats, property damage, fraud and a hit-and-run, but all charges were dismissed. Muenster police president Hajo Kuhlish said the man had four apartments and several cars. In a nearby apartment, police found more firecrackers and a "no longer usable AK-47 machine gun." *Muenstersche Zeitung* reported that the perpetrator had vaguely announced his suicide plans a week ago in an e-mail to friends. Herbert Reul, interior minister of North Rhine-Westphalia State, said the man had no license for the suicide gun. AP reported on July 29, 2018, that a fourth person, a Dutch man, 56, died of his injuries. AP also said the attacker was German citizen Jens Ruether, 48.

April 8: In the morning, special forces raided apartments in Berlin, Brandenburg and Thuringia State in connection with allegations that at least eight people had created a far-right terrorist organization by 2017. The individuals were members of the far-right Reichsbuerger movement that does not accept

the rules of contemporary Germany, but identifies with the state system of the German Kaiserreich area from 1871–1918. Authorities investigated the killings of some people and said the group may have procured weapons to enforce their goals. No one was detained during the raids.

Berlin police detained six people planning an extremist attack on Berlin's half-marathon. Police and prosecutors issued a joint statement that noted, "There were isolated indications that those arrested, aged between 18 and 21 years, were participating in the preparation of a crime in connection with this event." *Die Welt* reported that the detainees planned attack race spectators and participants with knives. *Die Welt* reported that the main suspect allegedly knew Anis Amri, a Tunisian who killed 12 people and injured dozens more when he drove a truck into a Christmas market in Berlin in December 2016. One of the apartments Berlin police raided before the race was also searched after Amri's attack. *Tagesspiegel* reported that the main suspect had been under 24/7 surveillance observation for two weeks. Police raided apartments and two vehicles in the Charlottenburg and Neukoelln districts of the city. On April 9, the six were released for lack of evidence.

April 12: Police in Saarlouis, near the French border, arrested three Syrian men accused of membership in Islamic extremist groups. One of them was believed to have tried to recruit people in Germany to fight in Syria's civil war. The men entered Germany as asylum-seekers in 2015. A refugee home employee told officials that he spotted one suspect in a video that showed him in uniform with weapons. A 23-year-old was accused of membership in Ahrar al-Sham and trying to recruit fighters over the Internet. His alleged accomplices, 21 and 27, were accused of ISIS membership.

April 24: AP reported that the German government had been paying \$1,429 a month in welfare to Tunisian Sami A., 42, a man who allegedly guarded Osama bin Laden in 2000 in Afghanistan. He had lived in Germany since 1997, coming to Germany on a student visa. In 2000, he allegedly trained at one of bin Laden's terrorist camps. His purported position in al-Qaeda was revealed in a 2005 trial in Düsseldorf, Germany. His asylum request was denied in 2006, and a court in Münster called him "an acute and considerable danger for public security." He lives with his wife and four children in Bochum and must report to the local police station daily.

April 25: Federal prosecutors announced the arrest of German-Polish dual citizen Thomas K., 36, who was accused of fighting for the Taliban in Afghanistan. He was detained upon arrival at Frankfurt airport after Afghan authorities handed him over. He traveled to Pakistan in 2012 and within a few months

joined the Taliban in North Waziristan region, on the Afghan border. Prosecutors said he started fighting for the Taliban in 2013 and continued until Afghan authorities captured him in Helmand Province in late February 2018. He was returned to Germany in April 2018. Prosecutors said he prepared explosives for a suicide attack and worked on a propaganda video aimed at German radicals. He was filmed participating in a failed mortar attack on an Afghan army base. *DPA* reported on December 10, 2018, that the Duesseldorf state court sentenced Thomas K., now 37, to six years in prison for membership in a terrorist organization.

May 2: Federal prosecutors announced the arrest in Tuebingen of Faisal A.H., 25, a Syrian man, on suspicion of joining a militia in 2013 that fought against the Syrian government. Later that year, the militia merged with ISIS. ISIS initially thought he was a government collaborator, but after undergoing religious “re-education” and swearing allegiance to the group he spied on people in Tabqa and helped clear homes seized by ISIS. He allegedly left Syria for Germany in late 2014.

May 7: The Federal Constitutional Court rejected the appeal of Haikel S., an alleged ISIS member from Tunisia, against deportation to his homeland. S. was born in 1980. The Court said authorities had obtained sufficient assurances from Tunisia that S. would not face capital punishment and might eventually become eligible for parole. S. was arrested in Frankfurt in January 2017 on suspicion of being a recruiter and smuggler for ISIS since August 2015, and of planning an attack. Tunisia separately accused him of involvement in the March 2015 attack on the Bardo museum in Tunis, as well as a March 2016 attack on Ben Guerdane. He was represented by attorney Seda Basay-Yildiz, who said she had submitted an urgent appeal to the European Court of Human Rights to halt his deportation. On May 9, Hesse state Interior Minister Peter Beuth announced the deportation to Tunisia of suspected ISIS member Haikel S.

May 14: Federal prosecutors charged Abduqaadir A., 20, a Somali man who allegedly was a member of al-Shabaab, with attempted murder and assistance to murder. He joined AS in 2012 in Mogadishu, and was trained to use pistols and hand grenades. He was believed to have joined other al-Shabaab members at a mosque where they assassinated a person with three shots to the head. *AP* reported that he was later assigned to kill a Somali government employee with the help of another group member at a restaurant. He fired several shots at the man, wounding him. Al-Shabaab detained him until he fled in October 2012. Prosecutors said he entered Germany in June 2014, and was arrested in February 2017.

May 19: The *Saarbruecker Zeitung* and *Saarbruecker Rundfunk* reported that a gunman was arrested after killing two people and injuring several in the Fechingen area near Saarbruecken. Police suggested it was a domestic incident.

May 25: Prosecutors charged Majed A., 24, a Syrian man, with membership in a foreign terrorist organization and weapons violations. He was suspected of fighting for ISIS and other groups in Syria. He was arrested in September 2017 in Schleswig-Holstein State. Prosecutors said he joined the Owais al-Qorani Brigade in Tabqa, Syria in 2013 to fight against the government of Bashar Assad. He then allegedly moved to other groups before joining ISIS in late 2014 or early 2015 and taking part in fighting against Kurdish militias. They claimed he entered Germany in the summer of 2015.

May 30: *AP* and *DPA* reported that at 7 p.m., one person was killed and two, including a female police officer, 22, injured in a knife attack on a long-distance train heading to Flensburg on the Danish border. Authorities said she appeared to have used her pistol, suggesting she may have killed the attacker, a 24-year-old Eritrean asylum-seeker. *Bild* reported that the clash followed a dispute between the Eritrean and a 35-year-old man; the police officer was called to intervene.

June 3: Police fired on an Austrian man, 53, who allegedly brandished a knife outside the Berlin Cathedral in Berlin, wounding him in the legs. Police called him a “hooligan,” and suggested that terrorism was not involved. *DPA* quoted police as saying the man appeared to be confused. He entered the Berliner Dom and waved a knife in the area of the altar. Cathedral employees called police. One of the two officers responding to the call opened fire, wounding the man. The second officer was inadvertently wounded seriously by the shot or shots fired by his colleague.

June 5: Three court-appointed defense attorneys for Beate Zschaepé, 43, accused of being part of the National Socialist Underground that allegedly targeted migrants, killing 10 people between 2000 and 2007, requested her immediate release, arguing she was not involved in the killings, bombings and bank robberies committed by her friends. The lawyers said she could only be tried for arson, and because she had been in custody for over six years, any sentence would be covered by time served. Her other two lawyers previously asked for a maximum sentence of 10 years. The trial began in 2013.

June 6: Authorities in Dortmund and Bottrop, and Amberg-Weizsach county in Bavaria arrested four Iraqis suspected of ISIS membership, including Mohammed Rafea Yaseen Y., 27, who is suspected of joining AQI in his western hometown of Rutba, Iraq

in 2006. He allegedly helped make improvised explosive devices and used them to carry out 12 attacks around Rutba between 2006 and 2008. Prosecutors claimed that U.S. troops were killed or wounded in the first ten attacks; Iraqi security forces and civilians were killed in the other two. Spokesman Markus Schmitt said Y. was under 18 at the time of the bombings and would be tried as a minor for those attacks if the case goes to trial. Y. was also accused of being an ISIS guard, including during two mass executions of men, women and children.

Iraqi citizen Hasan Sabbar Khazaal K., 26, was accused of producing and distributing ISIS propaganda material, including filming executions, punishments and military operations by ISIS. Residents of Rutba were forced to watch the footage.

Iraqi citizens Jamer Amer Jawad A.-A., 29, and Muqatil Ahmed Osman A., 28, were accused of taking part in military training with IS. Osman A. was suspected of taking part in combat and performing guard duty.

All four left Iraq in mid-2015 and entered Germany soon after.

In a separate case, on June 12, German authorities announced the June 6 arrest in Rhine-Neckar district of Aqram A., 18, an Iraqi man suspected of joining ISIS in 2014 in Mosul, Iraq, where he completed military training for approximately four weeks. He then worked as a guard and prepared fighting positions for ISIS. In the summer of 2015, the suspect took part in fighting near Beiji, Iraq. He allegedly left Iraq in late 2015 and entered Germany in February 2016.

June 12: Police raided an apartment in Cologne's Chorweiler neighborhood and arrested a Tunisian man, Sief Allah H., 29, suspected of planning an act of violence. Authorities found about 3,150 castor bean seeds and 84.3 milligrams of ricin, along with components needed to make a bomb, at his Cologne apartment. On June 14, authorities said they had thwarted his plot to use ricin made from castor bean seeds in a jihadi attack in Germany. Police believed he started procuring material online in mid-May, and created the toxin in June. He had contacts with jihadis. *Bild* reported that U.S. intelligence tipped off German investigators after they detected his online activity buying the seeds. *Bild* added that the suspect bought bomb-making materials and chemicals used in the production of ricin. He lived in Cologne with his wife, a convert to Islam, and four children. His wife was initially taken into custody but was later released. On July 24, 2018, German authorities arrested his wife, Yasmin H., 42, accusing her of being an accomplice by helping prepare an act of violence and helping produce biological weapons. Prosecutors said the duo purchased a hamster to test the effectiveness of the substance.

The rodent was reportedly alive and well at an animal shelter. Investigators said he twice traveled to Turkey in 2017, planning to go to Syria to join ISIS. They said his wife, who did not travel because she has children from a previous marriage, contacted people whom she hoped could get them to ISIS and booked his plane tickets to Turkey in August and September 2017. In the fall, he allegedly contacted ISIS in Syria. They suggested he conduct an attack in Germany. In October 2017, he visited a pyrotechnics company in Slubice, Poland, on the border with Germany. Prosecutors said he produced 84.3 milligrams of ricin in late May 2018.

June 13: The regional court in Duesseldorf sentenced Syrian refugee Saleh A., believed to be in his 30s, to seven years in prison for membership in foreign terrorist groups (including ISIS), fighting for ISIS in the Syrian civil war, manslaughter, and other charges. He admitted during his trial that he killed a Syrian government sniper who had allegedly killed his brother. He surrendered to French police in 2016 and claimed to be part of an ISIS plot to carry out an attack in Duesseldorf. The court concluded no such plans existed, but credited his cooperation with German security services.

June 25: DPA reported that officials detained Sami A., 42, a former bodyguard to Osama bin Laden and planned to deport him to his native Tunisia. He lived in Bochum. *Bild* reported that he was detained when he reported at a police station, as he was required to do daily.

June 29: Authorities in southern Germany arrested Jennifer W., 27, a German woman suspected of being part of ISIS's "morality police" in Iraq. She traveled to Iraq via Turkey and Syria in September 2014, where she joined ISIS. Prosecutors said she patrolled parks in Fallujah and Mosul, ensuring that women adhered to the dress and behavior codes. Turkish police arrested her in January 2016 after applying for a passport at the German embassy in Ankara. She was deported to Germany days later. Police searched her home in northern Germany. She was accused of membership in a foreign terrorist organization.

July 1: DPA reported that police shut down a highway rest area in the afternoon after officers found possible explosives in a car that had been pulled over in a routine traffic stop on the A3 highway near Rohnbrunn. Police arrested one of the four men in the car; he was wanted on a European warrant. The other three men were taken into temporary custody.

July 11: Presiding judge Manfred Goetzl announced in a Munich courtroom that it had found neo-Nazi National Socialist Underground co-founder Beate Zschaepe, 43, guilty and sentenced her to life in prison for ten murders (eight people

of Turkish origin and one of Greek—and a police-woman between 2000 and 2007), membership in a terrorist organization, bomb attacks that injured dozen and several lesser crimes including a string of robberies. She is likely to serve at least 15 years. Her lawyers planned to appeal the verdict. Four men were found guilty of supporting the group in various ways and sentenced to prison terms of between 2½ and ten years.

Also guilty were:

- Ralph Wohlleben, 43, of accessory to murder in the killing of nine men. Prosecutors said he was instrumental in supplying the original NSU trio with a Ceska 83 handgun and silencer and knew they planned to use it for the killings. He was sentenced to ten years, shorter than the 12 years prosecutors had requested. He was once a member of the far-right National Democratic Party. On July 18, 2018, the Munich state court ordered his release.

- Carsten Schultze, 38, of accessory to murder in the killing of nine men. Prosecutors said he handed the Ceska to assassins Uwe Mundlos and Uwe Boenhardt. He was sentenced to three years of youth detention; he was under 21 at the time of his crimes.

- Andre Eminger, 38, rented an apartment and mobile homes used by the NSU to travel around Germany. It was not proven that he knew of the planned crimes. He was convicted of supporting a terrorist organization and sentenced to 2½ years in prison. His sentence was shorter than expected. On July 17, prosecution spokesperson Frauke Koehler said they would appeal the sentence. Victim families said he had provided the group for years with IDs and vehicles and should have been convicted as an accessory to murder.

- Holger Gerlack, 44, convicted of three counts of supporting a terrorist organization for providing the NSU with a firearm and forged identity papers while they were on the run. He was sentenced to three years in prison.

July 12: An administrative court in Gelsenkirchen ruled that Sami A., 42, a Tunisian former bodyguard to the late al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden, should remain in Germany until the government received guarantees he would not face torture in his homeland. German authorities deported him on a charter aircraft to Tunisia the next day. The fax informing authorities about the court's decision was sent on after the man had already landed in Tunisia. Later on July 13, the court ordered him returned at Germany's expense, calling his deportation "illegal and breached fundamental principles of rule of law." The decision can be appealed.

Sami A. had lived for several years with his wife and children in Bochum. He had been taken

into custody by German authorities in June 2018.

On July 27, 2018, Sofiane Selliti, spokesman for Tunisia's judicial anti-terrorism unit, said a Tunisian investigating judge had freed Sami A., also known as Sami Idoudi, after being held for 15 days, the maximum time limit when no charges are filed. He must remain available to judicial authorities, who were continuing their investigation.

July 13: Police spokesman Ulf Wundrack said an Afghan man, 26, was shot to death in the afternoon outside a fitness club in Hamburg. Police detained a German-Afghan man, 23, who was trying to drive away.

July 19: Authorities in Saxony State arrested Esmail A.A., 22, a Syrian man suspected of being a member of ISIS. He posted numerous pieces of IS propaganda in *WhatsApp* chat groups that he described as a "news agency," starting in September, and in two cases instructions on how to participate in ISIS. Prosecutors say he shared material depicting scenes of ISIS hostages being tortured and executed.

July 20: *Reuters*, *Bild* and *AP* reported that at 1:47 p.m., a knife-wielding man attacked people on a bus in the Kuecknitz district of Luebeck, injuring ten, three seriously, before being arrested. A Dutchman, 21, was operated on overnight. *Luebecker Nachrichten* quoted a witness as saying: "One of the victims had just given up his place to an older woman, when the attacker stabbed him in the chest." On July 21, prosecutors charged a German-Iranian dual citizen male, 34, with attempted murder, serious bodily harm, and arson for trying to set the bus on fire. *Spiegel TV* quoted the suspect's father as saying his son, who lived locally, suffered from psychological problems.

July 26: Prosecutors charged German man Nils D., 27, with murder and committing a war crime for allegedly helping torture and kill prisoners as a member of ISIS in Syria. The new charges were filed at the Duesseldorf state court earlier in July. He traveled to Syria in October in 2013, returned to Germany in 2014, and was arrested in January 2015. He was sentenced to 4½ years in prison for membership in a foreign terrorist organization. He faced a second trial for involvement in torturing prisoners at an ISIS prison in Manbij. Prosecutors said that at least three prisoners died.

August 1: Authorities in Duesseldorf arrested Sivatheeban B., 36, a Sri Lankan man suspected of involvement in killing captured government soldiers as a member of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) a decade earlier. He was suspected of committing war crimes and membership in a foreign terrorist organization. Prosecutors said he belonged to LTTE from 2006–2009 and that in 2008,

he tied up 16 soldiers and guarded them as they were driven to a site where they were shot.

August 22: Federal prosecutors said authorities in Berlin arrested Russian national Magomed-Ali C., 31, suspected of plotting a jihadi attack in Germany along with Clement B., an alleged accomplice detained in April 2017 in Marseille, France for planning an attack in France. In October 2016, he stored a “significant quantity” of explosive TATP at his apartment for an attack in Germany.

AP reported on September 4 that German spokesman Martin Halweg said threatening letters containing a white powder—determined to be un-harmful washing detergent—and rambling letters were sent to the American and Israeli embassies in Berlin on August 22 and September 4 and to the U.S. Embassy on August 30. Halweg said the suspect in the threats is known to authorities and sent similar letters to the two embassies in July. He says authorities were organizing psychological counseling and possibly inpatient care for the individual.

August 23: Prosecutors indicted Iqbal Raad A., 42, and Abbas R., 19, two suspected ISIS members accused of participating in the execution of a high-ranking Iraqi official in 2014. They were formally charged with war crimes as “member of a foreign terrorist organization.” Prosecutors said Raad A. was an accountant for IS in Mosul from June 2014 onward, while Abbas R. performed armed patrols for the group in the city. Abbas R. was also suspected of transporting weapons and bodies of ISIS victims. Raad A. allegedly tried to recruit Iqbal into ISIS after moving to Germany in July 2015. Authorities arrested them in May 2017.

August 26: DPA reported on September 18, 2018, that a court in Chemnitz ordered the release of Yousif A., 22, an Iraqi detained over the fatal stabbing of a German, 35, on August 26 that sparked violent protests. A. was arrested with a Syrian, 23, for manslaughter.

September 1: AP reported on September 13 that Frankfurt prosecutors’ spokesman Sinan Akdogan said that Hesse State police arrested a teen, 17, on September 1 on suspicion he was planning a jihadi bombing of a gay nightclub and a Catholic church in the Frankfurt area. The suspect had instructions on how to make explosives and was trying to procure chemicals online. Small amounts of chemicals were found during a search of the suspect’s home in Florstadt, northeast of Frankfurt.

September 21: Police arrested Sarah O., 20, a German-Algerian woman, on suspicion of membership in ISIS. Prosecutors say she traveled to Syria in October 2013, where she received firearms training and married an ISIS fighter from Germany in 2014. The couple allegedly conducted “guard and police

duties” in ISIS-controlled areas. She allegedly tried to recruit others in Europe to join ISIS and, with her husband, received about \$118 a month from ISIS. Her children were taken into care upon their arrival at Duesseldorf airport from Turkey.

September 24: The Frankfurt state court convicted German citizen Abdelkarim E.B., 32, of being an accessory to a war crime for filming the abuse of a captive while he was with ISIS in Syria. He was convicted in 2016 of membership in a terrorist organization, among other charges. The court sentenced him to 10 years in prison, including 8½ years from the earlier conviction. He was in Syria from September 2013 to February 2014, filming ISIS members beating and kicking a captive, and threatening him with torture, in an attempt to make him talk.

September 28: At 4 p.m., an Afghan asylum seeker, 19, with a knife stabbed three people in the Marienplatz square in Ravensburg. Police told DPA that there was no indication of any terrorist background. One of the victims was in a life-threatening condition. The victims included two Syrian asylum-seekers aged 19 and 20 and a German man, 52. The man was eating at a restaurant with his family and tried to fight him off, but suffered cuts to his back and arm. Two were attacked at a bus stop and the other 50 yards away. Mayor Daniel Rapp told DPA that he happened to be near the attack scene, went to the square, and was threatened by the assailant. Rapp told the man to put his knife down, which he did. Police then arrested the man.

October 1: Police arrested seven men on suspicion of forming a “far-right terrorist organization” in Chemnitz and planning to carry out attacks against foreigners and political enemies. Tactical police in Saxony and Bavaria arrested six men, all German citizens aged between 20 and 30. The detainees allegedly formed a group calling itself “Revolution Chemnitz,” together with a seventh suspect who was arrested in a separate case in September. The seventh man, German citizen Christian K., 31, was alleged to have led the group. Prosecutors said the group wanted to “carry out violent and armed attacks against foreigners and political enemies” as part of a plan to overthrow Germany’s democratic order. Five of the men—Christian K. plus Sten E., Martin H., Marcel W. and Sven W.—allegedly attacked several foreigners in the center of Chemnitz on September 14, armed with bottles, weighted “sap” gloves and an electric stun device. Prosecutors said the attack was a ‘test run’ for another attack the men planned for October 3, Germany’s national unity day. A German man was killed in Chemnitz in August; police held a Syrian, 23, on suspicion of manslaughter in that case. An Iraqi man was also being sought for the killing. Late the evening of October 1, police arrested an eighth man, German cit-

izen Maximilian V., 28, in Chemnitz, on suspicion of founding “Revolution Chemnitz” with the others. Authorities intercepted communications between the men indicating that they were trying to obtain firearms.

October 15: A Syrian refugee, 55, entered a McDonald’s restaurant in Cologne’s train station and set fire to a gasoline bomb, injuring two people, including a girl, 14, who was later operated on for severe burns. The other was treated for smoke inhalation at the scene. He then held a woman hostage for two hours at a pharmacy before police shot him several times. He had demanded the release of a woman whose husband was involved in terrorist activities, and claimed to be a member of ISIS. He had been armed with an air gun. He was hospitalized, in a coma. Police found in the pharmacy’s back room gas canisters of the type used for camp stoves. He came to Germany in early 2015 and was granted asylum. The suspect said he was acting in the name of ISIS. Police were attempting to determine ISIS involvement and found nothing in his Cologne apartment to support his claim. Police found Arabic phrases like “Muhammad is my prophet” written in the apartment. Authorities believe the suspect may have had psychological problems. He had been investigated by police 13 times in the past for small to medium-level crimes, including possession of a small amount of marijuana, theft, disturbing the peace and fraud. His son and brother also live in Germany. His wife still lives in Syria. He was charged with attempted murder, bodily harm and hostage taking. On December 14, federal prosecutors, who handle terrorism and national security cases, said they were handing the case to Cologne prosecutors after an investigation could not confirm a jihadi motive and no evidence emerged of actual involvement with ISIS.

October 17: Federal prosecutors at Cologne Airport arrested German woman Mine K., 46, on charges of membership in a foreign terrorist organization as she attempted to return to the country after marrying an ISIS fighter in January 2015 in a video-call ceremony, joining him in Turkey in February 2015, spending time in Syria, and living in Iraqi homes in Tal Afar, Iraq seized by the extremist group. She decided to return home, through Turkey, after her husband was killed in mid-2015.

October 18: Unidentified individuals started a fire at a Turkish restaurant in the morning in Chemnitz. Residents heard a loud bang, saw smoke, and said three people ran away and got into a car. No one was hurt. Police said that “a xenophobic motive currently cannot be ruled out” but that they are investigating “in all directions.”

October 22: DPA reported that the Ravensburg State Court convicted a German man, 54, of at-

tempted murder for poisoning baby food and putting it on store shelves in a failed attempt to extort money from supermarkets. The court sentenced him to 12 years in prison. In the fall of 2017, he had sent e-mails threatening to poison food at German retailers unless 10 million euros (\$11.5 million) was paid. He told authorities that five jars of baby food at shops in Friedrichshafen had been tampered with. Officials located the jars before any were sold and found they contained ethylene glycol, a compound used in antifreeze. Police used DNA on the jars and surveillance footage to find the perpetrator.

October 25: The trial in Stuttgart Regional Court began of Faisal A. H., 26, a Syrian man, for alleged “membership in a foreign terrorist organization” identified as ISIS. Prosecutors said he joined a paramilitary group fighting Syrian President Bashar Assad’s forces in 2013 and later switched to ISIS. ISIS later imprisoned him as a suspected government spy. After undergoing “re-education” and swearing loyalty to ISIS, he allegedly was allowed to rejoin and made to clear seized houses and spy on residents of Tabqa. He left Syria for Germany in late 2014.

German police were investigating a letter sent to the U.S. Embassy in Berlin from a man, 54, who mailed threats and a white powder over the summer that were later determined to not be harmful. The man suspected of mailing the embassy letter was previously charged with disturbing the peace. The charges were thrown out because he was judged psychologically unfit for trial.

November 13: The North Rhine-Westphalia Interior Ministry said that 250 police searched buildings in Moenchengladbach in connection with an investigation of an Islamic association suspected of involvement in extremist activities. Police searched the Islamic association’s headquarters and 15 apartments where members lived, confiscating laptops, phones, hard drives and documents. The ministry claimed the association was suspected of being a meeting place for dangerous extremists and promoting the fundamentalist Islamic Salafist ideology.

November 15: Prosecutors charged German woman Derya O., 26, with membership in a terrorist organization on allegations she joined ISIS in Syria in February 2014 and married a fighter there with whom she had had previous contact over the Internet. They lived in Syria and Iraq off funds the husband received from ISIS, and had a child together. Her husband allegedly trained her in small arms. She allegedly had an explosive belt that could have been used in a suicide bombing. She left Syria through Turkey in 2017 and returned to Germany in August 2017.

Prosecutors arrested in Kassel and charged Syr-

ian citizen Mohamed A.G., 32, with membership in a terrorist organization for alleged involvement with ISIS. He was accused of joining ISIS in Syria in August 2013 and fighting in several battles through mid-2015, commanding a unit of fighters.

November 30: Hamburg's higher regional court sentenced Syrian refugee Yamen A., 20, to six and a half years in jail for planning a jihadi attack using a car bomb. Authorities said he was in the process of acquiring the chemical products and materials necessary to build a bomb when he was arrested in Schwerin in October 2017. Prosecutors said he planned to kill or injure about "200 people" with a car bomb at an undisclosed location in Germany. He discussed bomb-making instructions in online chat groups and repeatedly tried to manufacture TATP. He arrived in Germany in 2015 to avoid military service in Syria. Investigators believed he was radicalized over the Internet by mid-2017 and became an ISIS supporter.

December 11: Federal prosecutors announced the arrest in Hamburg of a German woman, Songul G., 40, suspected of supporting ISIS by helping two members who allegedly planned an attack in Germany. They said she was in contact with Marcia M., a suspected IS member based in Syria, who together with another alleged member was involved in plans for an attack in Germany. They planned to smuggle attackers into Germany, where they would marry women who were aware of the plot. In 2016, she allegedly registered a cellphone number under a false name and offered to host and marry one of the would-be attackers. Two of them then tried and failed to leave Syria for Germany.

December 14: A man, 38, stabbed three women in Nuremberg. None were in life-threatening condition, but remained hospitalized two days later. Police arrested a suspect the next day. On December 16, Bavarian Prosecutor Antje Gabriels-Gorsolke said he had 18 convictions, primarily for theft but also for drugs, fraud and one for sexual assault in 2002. Investigators linked him to the attacks through DNA analysis. Most of the crimes were committed in eastern Germany.

December 18: Police searched the As-Sahaba mosque in Berlin's Wedding district as part of an investigation into Ahmad A., 45, its imam, on suspicion he raised money to support an Islamic fighter in Syria. Prosecutors tweeted that A., who preaches under the name Abul Baraa, was suspected of financing terrorism for sending money to "a jihadi fighter in Syria for the purchase of military equipment." No arrests were made.

December 19: Authorities arrested two men and a woman in Karlsruhe on suspicion of illegal firearms ownership and preparing an attack. Police

seized a fully automatic weapon and ammunition in the raid.

December 20: DPA and public broadcaster SWR reported that police increased security at airports in southwestern Germany amid concerns that extremists surveilled operations at Stuttgart airport. Security officials were investigating four people, including one with possible ties to the Islamist scene. Two of the suspects, a father and son, were spotted taking pictures at France's Charles de Gaulle airport near Paris the previous week. Additional officers were deployed to Friedrichshafen, Karlsruhe/Baden-Baden and Mannheim airports in Baden-Wuerttemberg State.

December 28: Prosecutors indicted German woman Jennifer W., 27, alleged to have belonged to ISIS's "morality police" in Iraq and to have let a small girl she and her husband held as a slave die of thirst. W. was deported from Turkey to Germany in 2016. She was arrested in June 2018 and was charged with murder and committing a war crime. Federal prosecutors said she patrolled parks in Fallujah and Mosul in 2015, ensuring women adhered to ISIS dress and behavior codes. They said she and her husband bought a 5-year-old girl as a slave. The husband left the girl chained outdoors as punishment for wetting her mattress. W. allegedly did nothing to prevent her dying.

Greece

February 2: A Greek court rejected Turkey's extradition request for Mehmet Dogan, 60, a Turkish citizen of Kurdish origin, the first of nine suspected left-wing Revolutionary People's Liberation Party-Front members from Turkey who were arrested ahead of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's November visit to Greece. The court ruled that he was at risk of torture or other inhumane treatment if sent to Turkey. The court noted that France had granted Dogan refugee status. The U.S. and the European Union have deemed the group a terrorist organization. The nine denied charges of terrorism-related offenses, forgery, arms and explosives possession and resisting arrest.

February 11: Dimitris Koufodinas, 60, a convicted 17 November terrorist, returned to Athens' Korydallos prison after a 48-hour furlough, his second, accompanied by his wife and son. He greeted the waiting media but made no statement. Koufodinas, arrested in 2002, was serving eleven life terms plus 25 years for his role in assassinations, including U.S., British and Turkish diplomats and military personnel.

February 26: Before dawn, a hand grenade thrown at an Athens police station in the Kaisariani district

lightly injured a taxi driver. The attack occurred during a thunderstorm. Parked vehicles and a sentry post sustained minor damage. Anarchists claimed credit on their website. The taxi driver was getting into his car, and learned of the grenade when hospital doctors told him that a cut in his leg was due to a grenade fragment.

In the morning, arsonists poured petrol over a parked car with diplomatic plates belonging to the Albanian consulate in Thessaloniki, destroying it. No one claimed credit. The car was not near the consulate. 18022601

March 7: A prosecutor charged seven men with membership in the violent neo-Nazi Combat 18 criminal organization linked to a series of arson attacks on far-left and migrant-related targets, arson, causing explosions and possession of explosives and weapons. Anti-terrorist police arrested them in Athens and two towns and confiscated Molotov cocktails, 50 kilograms of explosives, shotguns, knives, cudgels, drugs and far-right paraphernalia.

March 19: A court in Komotini convicted a male Syrian refugee, 33, of having been an ISIS fighter in Syria and sentenced him to eight years in prison. The court acquitted him of murder and explosives-related charges concerning his alleged activities with the group. The man said he had belonged to the Free Syrian Army armed opposition group, not ISIS. He was arrested in October 2017 after applying for asylum in Greece. Authorities had found photos of military activity on his mobile phone. He entered Greece as a refugee from Turkey with his wife and two children, reaching the island of Leros by boat in 2016.

March 23: The little-known extreme right-wing Krypteia claimed credit for an arson attack on an Afghan community center on the fifth floor of a building in central Athens that caused significant damage, but no injuries. Authorities believed the arsonists poured flammable liquid on the door of the Afghan community center during the afternoon.

June 14: Anarchists of the Rubicon group staged a peaceful protest on the Acropolis in Athens in support of convicted far-left terrorist Dimitris Koufodinas, 61, a November 17 group member who was on a 15-day hunger strike to demand a furlough from prison, where he was serving eleven life terms for several murders. The group unfurled a banner in front of the 5th century B.C. Parthenon temple and charged that the government was trying to “assassinate” him. No damage was reported and no one was arrested. He was convicted in 2003 of belonging to November 17. He was granted two short furloughs during the previous eight months. Later that day, Greek officials approved a third, two-day, furlough upon his release from a hospital.

June 28: An Athens court cleared two Greeks convicted a year earlier of belonging to the nihilist terrorist Conspiracy Cells of Fire group. The duo had been jailed for 13 years. All five appeals court judges voted to clear the woman, Irianna, and the man, Pericles, who had been found guilty on the basis of partial DNA evidence from weapons, and their friendship with convicted group members.

August 3: Convicted left-wing November 17 terrorist Dimitris Koufodinas, 61, was transferred from the high security Korydallos prison near Athens to a minimum-security agricultural prison in Volos. He was serving eleven life terms for several assassinations. The “open prisons” give inmates greater freedom of movement within the grounds, including fields and livestock units where they work. He was arrested in 2002.

October 15: Thirty people assaulted a central Athens police station near Omonia Square with Molotov cocktails, injuring four police officers. The attack damaged several vehicles outside the police station. No one claimed credit, although anarchists were suspected.

October 18: Anny Paparoussou, attorney for Savvas Xiros, a Greek far-left extremist convicted of terrorism and murder for killings by the November 17 group, said Xiros sought early release from prison on health grounds. Xiros was serving five life terms in a maximum-security Athens prison. She said he was severely disabled, having been badly injured when a bomb he was trying to plant exploded prematurely in 2002 in Athens. Two of his brothers were among the group’s members.

November 13: Authorities removed a suspicious package found in the storage compartment of a motorcycle parked outside the home of Supreme Court prosecutor Isidoros Doyiakos in the Vyronas suburb of Athens, following a warning call that a bomb had been planted there. Anarchist groups were suspected. No explosion nor injuries were reported.

December 10: A panel of appeals judges rejected the request of Savvas Xiros, a jailed November 17 terrorist, for early prison release under legislation designed to ease prison overcrowding by allowing some convicts out on health grounds. He was serving five life sentences plus 25 years for his participation in November 17, which killed 23 foreign diplomats and Greeks between 1975 and 2000. He was caught after a bomb he planted exploded prematurely in 2002, leaving with permanent vision and general health problems. His lawyer, Anny Paparoussou, said that her client would appeal to the Supreme Court.

December 17: A bomb damaged the front of the building of the private *Skai* television station in Athens.

December 27: At 7 a.m., a timed bomb went off, hospitalizing a Greek police officer and a church caretaker who were investigating a suspicious package outside the Orthodox church of Agios Dionysios in the upscale Kolonaki area of central Athens, ahead of a Christmas holiday service to mark St. Stephen's Day. Father Symeon Voliotis, aide at the archbishop's office, told state-run *ERT* television that the caretaker found the explosive device at the front entrance of the church, moved it and called police. The attack took place without warning. Saint Dionysius the Areopagite was a 1st century Athens judge who converted to Christianity and became the city's patron saint.

Ireland

January 3: A Japanese man, 24, was stabbed to death and two others were injured in separate attacks. Police arrested an Egyptian national, 18, who was held at the Dundalk Police Station. Police believe he recently had been seeking asylum in Ireland. The Japanese victim had lived in Ireland for a year. He was stabbed in the back at 9 a.m. in Dundalk and died at the scene. Elsewhere in Dundalk, one person was stabbed and another attacked with an iron post within 40 minutes. The Egyptian was carrying a large fence post when taken into custody. Police were investigating the spree as possible terrorist attacks. The Egyptian had discussed his immigration status with police two days earlier. On January 4, Irish police said they found "no established link to indicate that this tragedy is terrorist-related."

Italy

February 3: The *Washington Post* reported that Luca Traini, 28, draped in Italy's tricolor flag, wounded at least six "people of color," later identified as African migrants, including five men and one woman, in a two-hour drive-by shooting spree in Macerata before being detained in the afternoon. *RAI* television reported that the victims were from Nigeria, Ghana, Gambia and Mali.

He had been a candidate for the anti-immigrant Northern League party for a seat on the municipal council of Corridonia in June 2017, garnering no votes. Authorities suspected that he was retaliating for the murder in Macerata of Pamela Mastropietro, 18, an Italian woman. On January 31, Mastropietro's dismembered remains were found packed into two suitcases. Authorities charged Nigerian immigrant Innocent Oseghale, 29, with her murder. Police found a handgun in Traini's car. He confessed as he was being arrested after he stepped out of his black Alfa Romeo 147 near Macerata's central war memo-

rial, gave a fascist salute, and shouted "Italy for the Italians." It was not clear whether the victims were Italian citizens. Referring to Oseghale, Northern League leader Matteo Salvini had posted on *Facebook*, "What was this maggot still doing in Italy? He wasn't fleeing war, he brought war to Italy." Police said Traini showed no remorse. He was held on multiple counts of attempted murder with the aggravating circumstance of "racial hatred." He earlier had ties with the neo-fascist Forza Nuova and the Casa Pound political parties. He had a forehead tattoo of the Wolfangel, a runel symbol used by neo-Nazis. Police searching his home found Adolf Hitler's *Mein Kampf*, other publications linked to Nazism and a flag with a Celtic cross, a symbol often used by white supremacists.

Jennifer, 29, told Turin's *La Stampa* from her hospital bed that she no longer felt free to walk around the city "with peace of mind" after Traini's attack. "I never hurt anyone. I was talking and laughing with three other people" when she was struck by the bullet. Jennifer faced surgery on her shoulder. Her boyfriend, Ogie Igbinowania, told *La Repubblica* that they were waiting at a bus station when he saw a man pointing a gun at them from a car. "I gave Jennifer a push to get her out of the way and threw myself down. And I heard a shot: Boom." She told *La Repubblica* that she arrived in Italy seven months earlier and joined Igbinowania in Macerata.

AP reported on October 3, 2018, that Luca Traini was convicted and sentenced to twelve years in prison. The sentence included an aggravating circumstance of racial hatred. 18020301

March 27: Police in Foggia arrested an Egyptian imam for preaching extremist and violent interpretations of Islam to children.

March 28: Police in Turin arrested Moroccan-Italian man Elmahdi Halili, 23, for participation in ISIS by spreading its propaganda online.

April 7: *ANSA* reported that police were investigating a high school student who planned to make a rudimentary explosive device that he intended to set off at his school in the northeastern region of Friuli-Venezia Giulia. He was active in pro-ISIS *Telegram* chats that attracted 60 followers. Police found an ISIS flag and Arab language documents when the Italian citizen of Algerian heritage was detained, but no explosive materials. A juvenile court ordered him to undergo a process of de-radicalization, working with the boy's family, psychologists and an imam.

April 26: Police chief Franco Gabrielli announced the arrest on April 20, 2018, near Naples of Alagie Touray, 21, a Gambian asylum seeker who arrived on a migrant boat in March 2017 from Libya and pledged allegiance to ISIS. Touray was apparently

not plotting a specific attack, but Italy's intelligence agencies suspected it was "highly probable" that he might, given the pledge he purportedly made in a video and sent by the *Telegram* app. ANSA reported that he had received instructions to drive a car into a crowd. Touray had lived in a migrant welcome center. He was accused of participation in a terrorist association.

May 10: Police conducted anti-terrorism operations across the country, arresting 14 legal residents of Italy linked to a network supporting the al-Qaeda-linked Nusra Front in Syria. Police arrested a Syrian and three Moroccans in Sardinia on charges of association with terrorism; and elsewhere in the country picked up ten Syrians suspected of money laundering and other financial crimes linked to terror financing. Anti-terror prosecutor Federico Cafiero de Raho told *Sky TG24* that the suspects, all legal residents of Italy, belonged to a cell that was "collecting and distributing considerable funds to Syria to support the war." Italian prosecutors said the cell sent fighters and 2 million euros (\$2.3 million) in funding. ANSA reported that a Syrian was arrested in Denmark; he had run a construction company in Sardinia and was the bank guaranteeing hawala transfers, receiving a percentage for each operation. His brother was arrested in 2017 in Sweden with cash equal to about 70,000 euros. Another associate with a large amount of cash was detained in Hungary.

July 10: Carabinieri arrested Macedonian Agim Miftari, 29, on charges of training "in view of future terrorist initiatives" in places like Syria. His Facebook account had ISIS propaganda from the Islamic State and films of armed drones. An April search of his home found a drone and military garb. He was served with the arrest warrant while already in detention following the April search.

The Interior Ministry expelled a Tunisian man who arrived in Italy in 2014 with a residency permit to study but developed links with jihadis.

July 25: ANSA reported that authorities deported to Slovenia from Bologna Airport Rok Zavbi, 28, a Slovenian man who completed a prison sentence for recruiting extremists to join ISIS in Syria. He had been sentenced to three years and four months in prison. ANSA said Zavbi had fought in Syria and that upon his return to Europe had helped recruit new fighters and gave them information about training camps. Italian media reported that he was one of three suspects convicted in a Venice court for recruiting terrorists, and that the group was linked to Bosnian recruiter Bilal Bosnic, who was serving a seven-year sentence in Sarajevo.

November 21: Police arrested Issam Elsayed Abouelayem Shalabi, 22, an Egyptian man accused of supporting ISIS and planning go to fight himself, saying he used social media chats to spread jihadist prop-

aganda. A second Egyptian was ordered expelled from Italy. A third Egyptian was being sought. Shalabi was the trio's leader, accused of association with the aim of international terrorism and instigation of terrorist acts. Police said Shalabi, a onetime McDonald's cleaner, used the *Telegram* app to share ISIS videos and a claim of responsibility for a July 2018 ISIS attack in Tajikistan that killed four western cyclists.

November 28: Police in Sardinia arrested Amin Alhaj Ahmad, 38, a Lebanese man of Palestinian descent, as he left his home on suspicion of association with the aim of international terrorism by trying to buy material online for a planned biological or chemical attack in Italy that he researched using ISIS propaganda. Police said he researched the aflatoxin B1 carcinogen and the metomil pesticide using his smartphone. Police started the investigation after Ahmad's cousin was detained in Lebanon and, during a confession, referred to his cousin's purported plans to carry out a toxic attack in Italy.

December 13: ANSA reported that anti-terrorism agents arrested a Somali on terrorism-related charges in Bari because they believed the suspect was planning to leave Italy "imminently." He was held on suspicion of terrorism association and instigation to commit acts of terror.

Kosovo

January 16: BBC reported that a gunman shot four times in the chest prominent Kosovo Serb politician Oliver Ivanovic, 64 outside his Freedom, Democracy, Justice party offices in the Serb-run north of Mitrovica. He died in a hospital. Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic said, "For Serbia this is an act of terrorism and we will treat it accordingly." Ivanovic faced a retrial for alleged war crimes against ethnic Albanians committed in 1999. European Union judges in Kosovo sentenced him to nine years in January 2016, but the verdict was overturned by an appeals court in 2017. AP reported that he was considered a moderate.

December 20: Prosecutors charged male Kosovar citizen M.D. with joining ISIS in Syria as a foreign fighter. He went to Istanbul, Turkey together with his wife and son in 2013, moved to Kilis, and then to Gaziantep, close to the Syrian border, where he joined ISIS. He stayed with ISIS until 2017 when he handed himself over to Turkish authorities and asked to be extradited to Kosovo. He faced up to ten years in prison.

Moldova

March 20: A bomb exploded in a grocery shop in Chisinau, killing two people. The bomb went off

after a man entered the store at 11 a.m., took ten packets of cigarettes, and refused to pay. As he walked out, a Soviet-made f1 defensive grenade fell out of his backpack and exploded, killing him and a man who was on the street outside. The bomber was born in 1968, had a criminal record, and lived in Chisinau.

Montenegro

February 22: NPR reported that around midnight, a man was killed after he first threw a grenade onto the grounds of the U.S. Embassy in Podgorica. The attacker killed himself with a second explosive. No other injuries or damage was reported. *Military Times* and AP reported the next day that ex-soldier Dalibor Jaukovic, 43, was apparently decorated by former Serbian strongman Slobodan Milosevic after NATO's bombing of Serbia and Montenegro in 1999. Police said he had no criminal record and did not call the attack an act of terrorism. Police said he was a Montenegrin born in neighboring Serbia.

Netherlands

May 5: A former patient at a mental health facility stabbed three people in the Hague before police shot him in the legs. On May 15, prosecutors announced that police received an anonymous tip in March that the man, 31, accused of the stabbing was possibly planning a terror attack. Prosecutors continued to investigate his motives and had not charged him with a terrorist offense. Police did not find terrorist propaganda in his home and no terrorist group had claimed credit. Police said he was known for "confused behavior."

May 30: Police in Schiedam shot and wounded a Syrian man, 26, who attacked officers trying to arrest him after neighbors reported that he was standing on an apartment balcony waving an ax and shouting "Allahu akbar." When arresting officers entered the apartment, the man attacked them and stabbed a police dog, which later died of its injuries. The Syrian had been living with his father in Schiedam since 2017.

June 26: At 2 a.m., a man twice crashed a white van into the Amsterdam headquarters of *De Telegraaf*, then torched the vehicle. No injuries were reported. He drove off in a waiting car.

The previous week, an anti-tank weapon hit *Panorama's* office building, causing no injuries. Police detained a suspect.

August 2: German prosecutors announced that authorities at Amsterdam airport arrested Yusup B., a Russian man, 29, suspected of sending money to finance ISIS, as he arrived from South America. Au-

thorities in Berlin and Brandenburg State were investigating him on suspicion of supporting a terrorist organization by transferring money to suspects in Syria to finance training and weapons procurement for ISIS. He had fled to South America.

August 22: A car carrying two gas canisters crashed into the Bommel town hall and burst into flames. One of the gas bottles exploded. One person, believed to be the driver, was found dead at the scene. Police tweeted that they had a "strong suspicion" about the driver's identity.

August 28: Police detained a man, 26, suspected of threatening an attack on the Dutch Parliament or on anti-Islam lawmaker Geert Wilders, the organizer of a Prophet Muhammad cartoon competition scheduled to be held in November. Police say he made the threat in a Facebook post. Arraignment was expected for August 30.

August 31: Police in Amsterdam shot and wounded an Afghan man, Jawed S., 19, after he stabbed with a knife two U.S. men, both 38, at the Central Station railway station at noon. The Americans, who were visiting the country, had serious but not life-threatening injuries. City authorities said he had a "terrorist motive." The suspect had a German residency permit. Authorities seized data storage devices from his home. AP reported on September 3 that the suspect had applied for asylum in Germany and was not considered a security threat. Dutch prosecutors said at his September 3 hearing that "It is apparent from his statements that he believes that in the Netherlands, the Prophet Muhammad, the Quran, Islam and Allah are repeatedly insulted.... From the suspect's statements so far, it is clear the man had a terrorist motive ... and that he traveled to the Netherlands for that reason." He mentioned Dutch lawmaker Geert Wilders, who is well known for his anti-Islam rhetoric and in late August called off a planned contest for cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad following death threats and concerns that others could be put at risk. On September 13, AP reported that Amsterdam District Court ordered the Afghan asylum seeker detained for 90 more days. 18083101

September 27: UPI, CNN, and AP reported that heavily armed police in Arnhem and Weert arrested seven men, aged 21 to 34, breaking up plans for a major terror attack. The arrests took place close to the borders with Germany and Belgium. The group allegedly tried to obtain AK-47s, hand grenades and materials to make bombs, and sought training to use the guns and suicide jackets. Three were previously convicted of attempting to join ISIS in Syria; two of them were convicted of that charge in 2017. The public prosecution department said it was tipped off by intelligence officials about the men's actions in April. The office announced, "The plan

may have involved jackets packed with explosives and Kalashnikovs at an event and a car bomb elsewhere. The investigation into the exact target is still ongoing.” Police said that the alleged ring leader, a man of Iraqi heritage, 34, wanted to carry out a major extremist attack on a large event and cause multiple casualties.

December 13: Military police spokeswoman Joanna Helmonds said military police arrested a man who allegedly threatened passers-by with a knife at Amsterdam’s Schiphol Airport during the night. No injuries were reported. Helmonds added, “the investigation is still underway but we do not believe there was a terrorist motive.”

December 29: Dutch and German police arrested five people suspected of preparing a terrorist act in the Netherlands. Four suspects were detained in Rotterdam; officers searched multiple locations. German police arrested a Syrian man, 26, in Mainz following a Dutch extradition request. The suspect had neither an official residence nor a criminal record in Germany.

December 31: The Royal Marechaussee police force tweeted that military officers evacuated passengers from a departure area at Amsterdam’s Schiphol Airport for a short time during the evening due to a bomb threat. They overpowered a Canadian man, 51, who was held for questioning. No explosives were found.

Dutch police arrested a man, 24, in Rotterdam on suspicion of involvement in a “terrorist crime.” Officers searched his home and seized data storage devices, but found no weapons or explosives.

Northern Ireland

January 26: A bomb went off at 8:15 p.m. in the Fraser Pass area of east Belfast, causing no injuries. Police arrested a man, 32, on suspicion of possessing explosives with intent to endanger life or cause serious injury to property.

July 11: Six shots were fired at Londonderry police officers during a fourth night of rioting, causing no injuries. Chief Inspector Neil Beck added “around 16 petrol bombs and five paint bombs were thrown ... and, in what can only be described as a blatant bid to murder police officers, shots were fired at police close to our city’s walls.”

July 13: Explosive devices were thrown at the West Belfast homes of former Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams and Bobby Storey, another prominent member of the Northern Ireland party, during the night, causing no injuries. One device damaged a car on Adams’s driveway. Police seized “remnants of large industrial, firework-type devices, capable of causing serious damage or injury.” On the night of July 17,

the Police Service of Northern Ireland detained a man, 35, in connection with the attack on Adams’s home.

Norway

January 6: Justice Minister Per-Willy Amundsen told *Nettavisen* that Norway would extradite Iraqi-born Najmaddin Faraj Ahmad, alias Mullah Krekar, 61, if an Italian court convicted him. Krekar was suspected of recruiting individuals via his ISIS-affiliated Rawti Shax network to fight in Iraq and Syria. The Italian trial was scheduled to begin on January 9. On December 18, 2018, Norwegian Justice Minister Tor Mikkel Wara said Krekar, now 62, had been given travel documents to travel to Italy where he faced trial. Norwegian police were to accompany him to Italy, where prosecutors alleged Krekar was behind Rawti Shax, a European network aimed at violently overthrowing the government in the Kurdistan region of Iraq and replacing it with a radical caliphate. Krekar, who came to Norway as a refugee in 1991, was convicted of threatening Norwegian Prime Minister Erna Solberg, making other death threats and praising the 2015 extremist slayings of cartoonists at the French satirical newspaper *Charlie Hebdo*.

August 31: Norwegian police apprehended a man near Porsgrunn following reports that an armed man in military fatigues had been spotted in the woods inside the Skien Fritidspark, a popular activity park, which has indoor and outdoor recreation facilities for families, a nearby educational school and a kindergarten. *Telemarksavis* reported that Norway’s elite police stormed a house and apprehended the suspect.

September 24: A district court west of Oslo convicted an engineer of Iranian descent, 51, of terror offenses in Norway for providing online instructions on how to carry out attacks and urging others to commit terror acts. He was sentenced to 2½ years in prison. The court held that from January 2014 until his arrest on May 11, 2015, he had urged ISIS to kill a Jordanian and a Syrian government pilot that it had captured. The man was arrested at the engineering firm Aker Solutions outside Oslo. He claimed that he wanted to infiltrate ISIS to destroy it from the inside.

Poland

March 7: Prosecutors indicted a Moroccan man, Mourad T., 28, for alleged participation in ISIS. The Casablanca native was active in Poland, Austria, Greece, Hungary, Serbia and Turkey from December 2014 until his arrest in southern Poland in September 2016. He faced eight years in prison. Pros-

ecutors said he was a scout for a leading ISIS activist in Europe, Abdelhamid Abbaoud, ringleader of the November 13, 2015, Paris attacks who was killed in France shortly afterwards. Mourad T. was traveling in Europe on a false document as a Syrian refugee.

Romania

June 26: The High Court of Cassation and Justice sentenced in absentia Alina Bica, a former chief prosecutor convicted of abuse of office, to four years in prison after she intervened to help suspects in two cases. The former chief prosecutor for the Romanian agency that investigates organized crime and terrorism was thought to be living in Costa Rica. Nicole Tender, whose husband was serving twelve years for defrauding a state company, said she gave Bica a Rolex watch and a \$2,000 purse. She testified that in exchange, Bica instructed prosecutors to ask for a suspended prison sentence. In a second case, Bica told a prosecutor to unfreeze the assets of an economy minister who was being probed for fraud.

November 11: Prosecutors accused Marius Parfenie, 20, of stabbing a man and then driving a car into people on a road and at a shopping mall, injuring ten people. Directorate for the Investigation of Organized Crime and Terrorism spokeswoman Mihaela Porime said that prosecutors were considering terrorism charges; Parfenie earlier was under investigation for attempted murder. None of the victims, including two children aged 11 and 13, sustained life-threatening injuries. Witness video from the mall showed him lying on the ground saying, "Blood should run in this country." Braila Court spokeswoman Georgiana Streche said that prosecutors found notes that suggest Parfenie planned the attack. He had worked as a butcher in Sweden.

Russia

February 10: The National Anti-Terrorism Committee announced that two militants were killed in a gun battle in Ingushetia, which borders Chechnya. One of them was being sought for having fought with ISIS. The duo fired after being cornered in a wooded area near Nazran. Authorities found two explosive belts, grenades and ammunition.

February 18: *Tass* reported that during the evening, a gunman fired a hunting rifle on churchgoers leaving an evening Russian Orthodox church service in Kizlyar in the Dagestan region, killing five people and wounding four others before police killed the assailant. IS claimed credit on February 19. Authorities said the gunman was a local resident; his wife was held for questioning. An IS-affiliated website said a Muslim fighter attacked "a Christian temple."

March 24: The National Anti-Terrorism Committee announced that an ISIS-affiliated gunman was killed in a battle with police who had surrounded a house in Dagestan and ordered to surrender. Police found a sniper rifle, ammunition and a grenade in the house.

April 21: The National Anti-Terrorism Committee announced that nine insurgents in the Caucasus region who allegedly were planning acts of terrorism during public holidays in May were killed by police. Police in Derbent, Dagestan, found two separate groups of suspects and ordered them to surrender. It said the suspects refused and died in subsequent gunfire.

Federal Security Service officers killed a suspected ISIS supporter who allegedly planned terrorist acts in Stavropol.

April 27: The Federal Security Service (FSB) detained four members of a suspected ISIS "sleeping cell" in the Moscow region after they traveled from Novy Urengoi, an oil town in western Siberia. The four were suspected of plotting terror attacks in Moscow and were receiving orders from IS members in Syria via a messaging app. Authorities detained 20 people in Novy Urengoi on suspicion of aiding the group.

May 9: Deputy Foreign Minister Oleg Syromolotov told *Tass* that Russian intelligence foiled a terror attack on the Victory Day memorial march of one million people in central Moscow in the annual Immortal Regiment rally. *AP* reported that several terrorist groups in western Siberia had stockpiled weapons for the attack. Twenty people were detained and 17 homes were searched.

May 19: The *New York Times* reported that security forces killed four gunmen who attacked the Russian Orthodox Archangel Michael Church in Grozny, Chechnya. Two policemen and a churchgoer died. The terrorists, armed with knives, hatchets, and explosives, had initially seized hostages.

June 13: *Newsweek* reported that the pro-ISIS media outlet *al-Adiyat* released a four-minute video threatening to attack the World Cup. The video showed a drone with an ISIS logo flying over the Olympic village in Sochi as its stadiums and other buildings burst into flames. Most of the footage was earlier released by ISIS's branch in the Caucasus. The film opens with 11 young men standing in front of a black ISIS flag, three of whom have their faces blurred. The video included clips of ISIS combat in Mosul, Iraq. One man said, "Nobody knows that we are mujahideen and that we are operating here in the city—not our families, not our friends, not our work colleagues, and not even our brothers.... We are lying in wait for you, and we know everything about your moves, Allah willing. So watch out for

that moment, watch your cars, watch your homes. The brothers are going to hunt you down.” A second man mentioned the group’s “army” of Russian fighters, which “sharpened our knives, and we are coming for you.... Russian people, know that we will kill you, because of this tyrant who started a war against us.... He started the war for his personal goals, but you will be the ones who will pay the price.... We will enter your homes, we will take you and slaughter you.... We will take your women captive, and we will enslave your children.” One speaker observed, Russian President Vladimir Putin, “you dog, you will burn in the hellfire.” Other clips showed soccer superstars Lionel Messi and Neymar dressed in orange jumpsuits—used in ISIS execution videos—with knives against their throats or on fire. “You will not enjoy security until we live it in Muslim countries.”

August 20: A terrorist set off a suicide bomb in Grozny, injuring several policemen. The attacker survived and was hospitalized.

Jihadis attacked the southern Chechen town of Shali, injuring two police officers.

ISIS claimed credit for three attacks in Russia’s Northern Caucasus. Five militants, aged between 11 and 16, were killed.

August 23: Late in the day, *Interfax* reported that the Russian Investigative Committee said an unidentified man fired a non-lethal weapon at two police officers in Moscow, seriously wounding one. Police returned fire, badly wounding the attacker.

October 8: *Prigozhin*, the *Federal News Agency*, a news outlet linked to St. Petersburg multimillionaire restaurateur Yevgeny Prigozh, who was accused of meddling in the 2016 U.S. presidential election, was hit by an arson attack in the morning. Assailants broke a window in the St. Petersburg office and tried to torch it. The media empire includes a “troll farm” whose members were indicted in the U.S. in February 2018 for allegedly waging “information warfare” against the U.S. through social media platforms and online media.

October 17: *Tass*, *AP* and *CNN* reported that Vladislav Roslyakov, 18, a high school student, set off a bomb and fired a shotgun at fellow students before killing himself in the library at Kerch Polytechnic College in Crimea. Twenty people, mostly adolescents between the ages of 14 and 19, were killed and 50 more hospitalized, 12 with severe injuries. Health Minister Veronika Skvortsova said, “The kids’ muscles have been ‘minced’ with small metal objects. In those who have their organs ripped apart, we are finding metal balls in kidneys, intestines, in blood vessels. That is how powerful the blast was.... Some people have feet, lower legs missing.” The Russian National Guard initially suggested it could be terrorism-related. Russia’s National Anti-

Terrorism Committee initially said a bomb had been planted in the vocational school’s cafeteria. Authorities destroyed a second bomb. The Russian news service *Mash* said Roslyakov was an introverted loner with a fondness for “maniacs.” He purchased an automatic rifle and cartridges the previous week. The attacker’s mother, nurse Galina Roslyakova, attended the wounded at a local clinic. A Crimean official said authorities were searching for a possible accomplice. *Tass* reported that all information and messages had been deleted from Roslyakov’s computer. Roslyakov had recently received a permit to own a shotgun and had bought 150 cartridges a few days earlier.

Russia seized Crimea from the Ukraine four years earlier.

October 26: The FSB arrested six suspected members of an ISIS cell that plotted terror attacks in Moscow with self-made explosives and firearms. The FSB said the group received orders from citizens of Central Asian nations in Syria. A search found automatic weapons and plans for attacks.

October 31: The National Anti-Terrorist Committee said that a local man, 17, removed a bomb from a bag and detonated it at the entrance of the local branch of the FSB intelligence agency in Akhangel'sk, injuring three FSB officers and killing himself. On November 6, a Moscow court ruled to keep behind bars a boy, 14, from Moscow believed to be linked to the bombing. Investigators said he was believed tied to the 17-year-old male technical college student who set off the bomb. Authorities called it a “lone wolf” attack but said they were investigating an anarchist chat group where he had posted a warning.

November 7: *Tass* reported that Alexander Bortnikov, chief of the Federal Security Service, said his officers “took measures to detect and foil attempts by terrorists to use drones during the preparation and hosting of various major political and sports events, most of all during the soccer World Cup.”

November 17: *AP* and *UPI* reported that Chechen Interior Minister Alti Alaudinov said a woman set off her explosive vest at 4 p.m. at a checkpoint outside Grozny, killing only herself. Officers at Federal Police Checkpoint 21 noticed her exhibiting “strange behavior” and asked her to stop and present identification. She instead charged the checkpoint. Police fired a warning shot; she then blew herself up.

December 19: The FSB said its commando in Stavropol tracked down a group of suspected IS members plotting a terror attack. The suspects offered resistance and the FSB agents fired back and “neutralized” them.

Slovenia

September 4: Interior Minister Vensha Gyorkos Znidar said Slovenian police launched an investigation after video footage and photos appeared on social media of a group of armed, masked men led by nationalist politician Andrej Sisko, a right-wing former presidential candidate. The video showed several dozen masked men training in a field in military-like outfits and holding axes and rifles. Sisko said they were guards of the Stajerska region, in the northeast of the country. Sisko won 2 percent of the votes in the 2017 president election. His United Slovenia Movement party failed to win any seats in parliament in June's election. Sisko told the official *STA* news agency that his group was not a paramilitary unit, but a "volunteer defense group of free men." On September 6, Slovenian police arrested two people for paramilitary activity. Some 40 criminal investigators searched five houses in the northeastern area around Maribor in the Stajerska region where the group was filmed. Local media said Sisko was arrested. The suspects faced charges of "inciting violent change of constitutional order" and illicit arms and drug trafficking.

Spain

February 1: Prosecutors requested a 40,500 euro (\$50,500) fine and nearly three years in prison for Pablo Rivadulla, stage name Pablo Hasel, a Spanish rapper accused of tweeting messages from 2014 to 2016 in defense of members of ETA and GRAPO, two armed groups Spain considers terror organizations. Prosecutors also said he insulted police and former King Juan Carlos in tweets and in a *YouTube* song. In a tweet on January 31, Hasel defended his actions and called the court "fascist."

On March 2, the National Court sentenced rapper Pablo Rivadulla to two years in prison and fined him 24,300 euros (\$30,000) for praising terror groups, encouraging violence and insulting the Spanish Crown and state institutions, including the police. He was convicted of the same crimes for songs posted on *YouTube* in 2015.

April 20: Basque newspapers *Berria* and *Gara* reported that Euskadi Ta Askatasuna (ETA, Basque Homeland and Freedom) spokesmen apologized for the pain caused by assassinations, torture, kidnappings and population displacements during its more than four decades of armed campaign for independence from Spain and France, and vowed not to return to violence. The group killed 850 people including police, politicians and entrepreneurs. "We want to show our respect to the dead, the injured and the victims that ETA's actions have caused.... We really are sorry." The group aimed "to finally

overcome the consequences of the conflict and not to fall into its repetition ... this political and historical conflict should have had a fair and democratic solution a long time ago."

May 2: ETA released a letter dated April 16 to Basque institutions and civil society groups announcing that it had "completely dissolved all its structures" after a 60-year armed independence campaign. The Spanish online newspaper *eldiario.es* published it. ETA, founded in 1958, killed 853 people, injured more than 2,600 people, kidnapped 86 and threatened hundreds more in its terrorist, separatist campaign. The group noted that its dissolution "doesn't overcome the conflict that the Basque Country maintains with Spain and with France.... The Basque Country is now before a new opportunity to finally close the conflict and build a collective future.... Let's not repeat the errors, let's not allow for problems to rot."

July 9: The National Court convicted Ahmed Samam, 29, who was born in Syria and acquired Danish citizenship, of being a foreign fighter with ISIS in Syria, financing terrorism, obtaining firearms in Spain and promoting jihad on social media, and sentenced him to eight years in prison. He traveled to Syria in 2012, 2013 and 2014 and participated in major battles there, including the August 2014 fight for Raqqa airport. He was arrested in Malaga in 2017.

August 20: At 6 a.m., police in Barcelona's Cornellà district opened a locked police station door to a man who then pulled a knife on them, yelling "Allah." Police shot him to death. Police were treating the incident as a terrorist act. The attacker lived near the police station.

September 19: *AP* reported on November 8, 2018, that on September 19, police arrested a male former private security guard, 63, in Terrassa in Catalonia who they believe intended to attack Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez over his controversial decision to exhume the remains of late dictator General Francisco Franco. *Publico* reported that he had yet to be charged. Police found 16 weapons in the suspect's home, including handguns and sniper rifles.

December 24: The U.S. warned its citizens to exercise "heightened caution" around buses and public transport in Barcelona's Las Ramblas area, warning of the risk of a terrorist attack during the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

Sweden

January 7: *AP*, *Aftonbladet* and *Expressen* reported that at 11 a.m., a man in his 60s outside the Varby Gard subway station in Stockholm's Huddinge res-

idential district picked up an object from the ground that went off in his hand, killing him and injuring his female companion, in her mid-40s, who suffered “minor wounds” to her face and both legs.

April 30: The domestic intelligence agency SAPO arrested three people suspected of preparing an act of terror in Stockholm’s northern suburbs. Several other people were brought in for questioning. SAPO spokeswoman Nina Odermalm Schei told Sweden’s *TT* news agency that the case “has international links but we can’t say which countries we are talking about.” *Aftonbladet* said one suspect was from Uzbekistan. *AP* added on May 4 that the men were aged 29, 38 and 45 and held passports from Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.

May 4: Prosecutor Lars Morand said a person born in 1987 was arrested in Lund for preparing an act of terror.

December 13: The *Goteborg Tidning* newspaper and the daily *Aftonbladet* reported that the SAPO security service announced several raids in Goteborg and its suburbs in western Sweden, the detention of several people for questioning, and the arrest of a man in western Sweden on suspicion of preparing a terrorist attack. SAPO added that “preparations for the suspected terrorist offense have been underway for some time” and that “there are international links.” A court in Goteborg on December 14 remanded into custody a man in his 20s on suspicion of preparing a terrorist attack and illegal weapons possession. Swedish news agency *TT* said he was represented by attorney Mikael Hansson. SAPO head Klas Friberg told *TT* it had acted on a tip from abroad.

December 27: Prosecutors charged three men with preparing an extremist attack. They and another three men were also charged with financing ISIS. The main three suspects allegedly acquired and stored large quantities of chemicals and other equipment “to kill and harm other people” among other things. All six men, who are reportedly from Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, were charged with sending money abroad that was eventually forwarded to ISIS. Five men were in police custody; one was freed pending a trial, which is set to start January 7, 2019.

Turkey

January 31: *Anadolu* reported that Syrian Kurdish fighters in Afrin, Syria, fired two rockets, hitting a house and garden wall in Reyhanli, a border town in Turkey, killing a girl, Fatma Avlar, 17, and wounding another person. 18013101

February 1: *Dogan* reported that Governor Mehmet

Tekinarslan said a rocket fired from the Syrian Kurdish-held enclave of Afrin, Syria, hit a restaurant in Kilis, injuring five people. 18020101

The Ankara governor’s office announced that an explosion that damaged a tax office building in Ankara’s Cukurambar district was caused by a bomb—not a gas leak as initially reported. No injuries were reported. In a pre-dawn raid on February 2, police killed suspected bomber Ersen Ertogan, born in 1991, who had entered Turkey illegally from Syria and who had trained with Kurdish fighters in Syria. Authorities detained eight people suspected of links to the alleged bomber. Security cameras showed Ertogan leaving a bag believed to contain an explosive at the entrance to the tax office.

February 2: *Anadolu* reported that three rockets were fired from Afrin, Syria, toward Reyhanli in Hatay Province, hitting a house, a road close to a marketplace, and the outer wall of a workplace, hospitalizing six people. Governor Mehmet Tekinarslan said three more rockets hit Kilis, northeast of Reyhanli, injuring three.

March 5: *Anadolu* reported that police detained four Iraqis suspected of ISIS membership as part of an investigation into a possible attack on the U.S. Embassy in Ankara, which was closed over an unspecified security threat. Two were found on a bus at a security check on a highway linking Samsun to Ankara. Two others were detained in Samsun. On March 7, police in Adana detained 13 IS suspects, including 12 Syrians, believed plotting attacks against the U.S. Consulate and other buildings.

Police in Ankara detained a dozen foreign IS suspects and were searching for eight others allegedly trying to recruit members for ISIS who were in contact with people in “conflict zones.”

April 5: Research assistant Volkan D. shot and killed four staff members, including a deputy dean, a secretary and two teaching staff, at Osmangazi University in Eskisehir. *Hurriyet* reported that three other people were wounded. D. surrendered to police.

April 27: *Anadolu* reported that Turkish authorities detained four suspected senior ISIS members, including the group’s emir for Deir el-Zour, Syria in an operation in Izmir. *Hurriyet* credited a joint operation by Turkey’s intelligence agency and police anti-terrorism units, who found the suspects hiding among a group of Syrian refugees planning to cross into Europe.

May 24: A Turkish court postponed an extradition case regarding suspected Australian ISIS recruiter Neil Prakash, who had been in Turkish custody since 2016, pending the result of a Turkish terror-related investigation. The former rapper from Melbourne featured in ISIS videos. Attorney Mehmet

Alper Unver said that the trial was adjourned until July 19. Prakash faced a potential life sentence if convicted in Australia of terrorism offenses. Unver said Prakash wanted to serve time either in Turkey or another majority-Muslim country.

May 25: Police raided 16 locations in Istanbul, netting 51 suspected ISIS members, described as “foreign fighters.” None of them were Turks, but their nationalities were not announced.

June 18: A Turkish court in Tekirdag Province indicted Mehmet Kanter, father of NBA New York Knicks player Enes Kanter, with “membership in a terror group.” Prosecutors sought a 5–10-year prison term. Enes Kanter was a follower of cleric Fethullah Gulen, whom the government accused of masterminding a failed military coup in 2016.

June 22: *Anadolu* reported that police had detained 14 suspected ISIS members, all foreign nationals, in simultaneous raids in Ankara. The suspects were allegedly preparing to carry out attacks ahead of Turkey’s presidential and parliamentary elections on June 24.

July 19: The Criminal Court in Kilis, Turkey, turned down Australia’s request for the extradition of suspected Australian ISIS recruiter Neil Prakash, 27. He was represented by attorney Mehmet Alper Unver. Authorities detained Prakash near the border with Syria in 2016, after he attempted to enter Turkey with false documents. The former Melbourne rapper appeared in ISIS videos, was linked to several attack plans in Australia, and had urged lone wolf attacks against the United States. He faced a life sentence if convicted in Australia of terrorism offenses. Australia said it would appeal.

Anadolu and *DHA* reported that authorities in Istanbul arrested four people, including Seda D., the wife of Tarkhan Batirashvili, alias Abu Omar al-Shishani, alias Omar the Chechen, a top Georgian commander in ISIS who was killed in Iraq in July 2016 during an airstrike, for alleged links to ISIS following their detention in a counter-terror operation earlier in July. *DHA* said she had used a fake passport and had two sons. He served as “Minister of War” for ISIS and appeared on many videos.

July 31: *Anadolu* reported that during the night, Kurdish rebels set off a bomb on a road near Yuksekova in Hakkari Province, which borders Iran and Iraq, killing a woman and her 11-month-old son. They were returning from a visit to her husband who is a Turkish army sergeant.

August 20: At 5:30 a.m., a gunman fired six shots from a moving white car at the U.S. Embassy in Ankara, striking a guard booth, an iron door, and a window, but causing no injuries at the embassy, which was closed to the public for four days that week because of the Muslim Eid al-Adha holiday.

Officials detained two people with criminal records. The Ankara governor’s office said Ahmet Celikten, 39, and Osman Gundas, 38, had confessed. Authorities seized a 9-millimeter gun and a vehicle with Ankara license plates. Celikten had escaped prison and Gundas had earlier been charged with car theft, drugs and threats, the governor’s office said. The duo were placed in a high security prison with a third suspect, Ersin Bayram. *Anadolu* reported that police arrested three more suspects on September 1, 2018. Three others who had been detained were released under judicial control, requiring them to regularly check in with authorities. 18082001

August 31: Turkey designated the former Nusra Front, the Syrian al-Qaeda affiliate, including its re-branded name Levant Liberation Committee (Hay’at Tahrir al-Sham), a terrorist group, freezing the assets of its members and the organization.

September 21: *Anadolu* reported that authorities arrested Max Zirngast, an Austrian, with two others for “membership in an armed terror organization,” the Turkish Communist Party/Kivilcim, and jailed them pending trial. One suspect was released but must regularly check in with police. Zirngast was arrested the previous week. Austrian Chancellor Sebastian Kurz demanded his release and an explanation from Turkey. Zirngast was a student of political science who contributed to left-wing publications.

September 26: *Anadolu* reported that a bomb believed to have been planted by Kurdish rebels exploded on a road in the mainly Kurdish-populated Sirnak Province, near the border with Iraq, killing two government-paid village guards and wounding two other village guards.

October 4: *Anadolu* reported that Kurdish rebels set off an explosive device on a road near Gercus in the majority-Kurdish province of Batman in southeast Turkey, killing seven soldiers and wounding two other soldiers. The soldiers were inside an armored military vehicle, en route to protect a construction site in the region. *Anadolu* had claimed that they were traveling to carry out operations against the rebel group.

October 8: Police detained 90 people suspected of links to outlawed Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) rebels in simultaneous raids in nine Turkish provinces, seizing documents and digital data.

October 15: Iranian state television reported that Turkish authorities had increased security around the Iranian Embassy on Ankara’s Tehran Street after receiving reports of a suicide bomb threat to the diplomatic mission.

October 16: *Anadolu* reported that police in Ankara shot in the leg the driver of a tractor that struck a series of cars on Ataturk Boulevard and appeared headed for the Israeli Embassy. The driver, a farmer,

45, ignored calls to stop and was detained two kilometers away from the Israeli ambassador's residence. He told police he planned a protest outside the Israeli Embassy. The Ankara governor's office said the farmer had been under treatment for psychological problems since 2007.

October 26: A Turkish court convicted German citizen Patrick Kraicker of membership in a banned Kurdish organization—the YPG militia, which is linked to the banned Kurdish PKK party—and sentenced him to six years and three months in prison. Supporters said Kraicker was on a hiking holiday near the Turkish-Syrian border.

November 5: *Anadolu* reported that police detained 24 people in Diyarbakir and ten other Turkish provinces over alleged money transfers to Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Indonesia and Libya as part of an investigation into ISIS's international financial dealings. *Anadolu* did not provide the suspects' nationalities. Police seized nearly \$580,000, as well as euros, and Turkish and Syrian currency.

November 25: Authorities detained two people and confiscated their weapon following a 4 a.m. drive-by shooting from a white car near the Austrian Embassy in Ankara. The duo were believed to have been drunk. There were no reports of damage or injuries.

Ukraine

May 22: The *Donetsk News Agency* quoted separatist rebel spokesman Ruslan Yakobov as saying that an accidental grenade explosion on a bus killed one teenager and wounded three others. The bomb was in a backpack belonging to one of the boys. The victims, aged between 14 and 16, were heading home from school in Debaltseve.

May 29: The media initially reported that Russian opposition journalist Arkady Babchenko, 41, was shot and killed on the staircase inside the journalist's building in Kiev as he was going out to buy bread. His wife found him bleeding at their apartment; he died on the way to a hospital of multiple gunshot wounds to his back. Babchenko served in the Russian army and fought during the first Chechen separatist war in the 1990s. He worked as a military correspondent for several Russian media outlets and wrote several books about his war experiences. He left Russia in February 2017, saying he was receiving threats and concerned he might be jailed. He hosted for the Crimean Tatar TV station ATR. The next day, *AP* reported that he showed up at a Kiev news conference to say that the story was a fabrication issued by Ukrainian authorities, who faked his death to thwart a Kremlin plot on his life. He apologized to his wife, who was not

in on the ruse. Vasyl Gritsak, head of the Ukrainian Security Service, said a Ukrainian citizen allegedly received \$40,000 from the Russian security service to organize and carry out the hit. The unidentified Ukrainian man in turn allegedly subcontracted the job to an acquaintance. The Ukrainian was detained. Gritsak added that the Ukrainian man was to obtain large quantities of weapons and explosives, including 300 AK-47 rifles and "hundreds of kilos of explosives" to perpetrate acts of terror in Ukraine.

On June 15, 2018, Ukrainian authorities charged in absentia a second suspect, Vyacheslav Pivovarnik, with organizing terrorist acts for allegedly organizing a murder plot against Babchenko. Bogdan Tivodar of the Ukrainian Security Service said Pivovarnik was believed to be in Russia and had tried to recruit Ukrainian citizens as attackers.

August 31: Rebel news agency *DAN* reported that Alexander Zakharchenko, 42, the prime minister of the self-declared Donetsk People's Republic and leader of the Russia-backed separatists fighting in eastern Ukraine's Donetsk region, was killed by an afternoon explosion at the Separ café, which was separatist-themed and had camouflage netting hanging from its eaves. Russian news agencies added that the separatist government's revenue minister, Alexander Timofeev, was severely injured. Russia's *Interfax* news agency said suspects had been detained. Zakharchenko's aide later died of his wounds. Twelve people were injured.

September 11: Pyotr Verzilov, 30, Canadian-Russian associate of the anti-Kremlin art group Pussy Riot, was hospitalized after a suspected poisoning. Verzilov's partner and Pussy Riot member Veronika Nikulshina said his symptoms included loss of mobility, sight and speech. Online news organization *Meduza* reported that he was being treated in the toxicology wing of Moscow's Bakhrushin City Clinical Hospital. The *Cipher Brief* reported on September 21, 2018, that German doctors said it was "highly plausible" that he had been poisoned. Verzilov was among activists who interrupted the World Cup final in Moscow on July 15, 2018, and were sentenced to 15 days in jail.

September 29: Three people were wounded in an explosion at a meeting of the local Communist Party in Donetsk, capital of the Donetsk region, where Russia-backed separatists have been fighting Ukrainian forces since 2014.

October 9: Authorities suggested sabotage was responsible when explosions went off at an ammunition depot of the Ukrainian Armed Forces near Ichnya in Chernihiv Oblast. The arsenal covers more than a quarter square mile and had 176,000 pounds of ammunition. Authorities evacuated 12,000 peo-

ple, including hospital patients. Ukraine's Defense Ministry said there were two simultaneous explosions in one area of the depot, followed moments later by two more in another area. Military prosecutors started criminal proceedings under Part 3 of Article 425 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine (careless attitude to military service). No casualties or injuries were reported.

November 15: In the morning, Molotov cocktails were thrown at the landmark St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Kiev. Attackers then assaulted a priest with pepper spray. The Patriarch of Constantinople had paved the way for the independence of the Orthodox Church in Ukraine from the Russian branch of the church.

United Kingdom

January 3: West Midlands Police arrested five men and one woman aged between 21 and 37 on suspicion of belonging to the far-right National Action, which was banned in 2016. It was the first far-right extremist group outlawed in the UK. Police searched several properties.

January 8: London's Central Criminal Court convicted Munir Mohammed, 36, an asylum-seeker from Sudan, and London pharmacist Rowaida el-Hassan, 33, met on SingleMuslim.com and bonded over their shared extremist views, for plotting a bombing in the UK. Prosecutors said Mohammed offered to conduct an attack during *Facebook* exchanges with a man he believed to be an ISIS group commander. Police found bomb-making instructions and two of the three components for the explosive TATP at Mohammed's home when he was arrested in December 2016. Mohammed drew on el-Hassan's chemistry knowledge during his preparations. Sentencing was scheduled for February 22, 2018. They faced a life sentence.

January 16: Prosecutor Mark Heywood told a jury at London's Central Criminal Court that London man Umar Haque, 25, "was fascinated by the warped and extreme ideology of Islamic State" and plotted attacks against Big Ben, Heathrow Airport, banks, shopping centers and embassies. He was arrested in May 2017. Haque was recorded saying, "We are a death squad sent by Allah and his messengers to avenge my Arab brothers' blood." Three alleged accomplices he met via a London mosque who were accused of aiding him denied the charges, as did Haque.

On March 2, 2018, a London court convicted Umar Haque of trying to recruit children to carry out ISIS-inspired attacks across the city. He was accused of radicalizing children at a mosque and two schools, getting them to act out scenarios and show-

ing them beheading videos. Metropolitan Police counterterrorism commander Dean Haydon said "his aim was to create an army of children" to attack "multiple sites using multiple weapons." The Scotland Yard commander said 35 children were getting support after Haque's indoctrination, which had left them "almost paralyzed with fear." As he was being pulled from the dock by court officers, the prisoner yelled, "You will clearly see Islamic State establish itself in the Arabian peninsula and that droughts will affect Europe and America." Two other men were convicted of helping him.

February 26: Kingston Crown Court sentenced London man Mohammed Kamal Hussain, 28, to seven years after being found guilty of encouraging terrorism and supporting ISIS after an investigation that started with a complaint about a *Facebook* message urging another man to join ISIS. The person who notified the Home Office about the message did not live in the UK and said he did not know the sender.

March 13: Plain white envelopes with second-class stamps were sent to six communities in the UK, including Cardiff, Leicester, London and Sheffield. The anonymous messages in large red and black letters declared April 3 as "Punish a Muslim Day" and complained about Europe's lax immigration policies, along with Muslim immigrants. "Are you a sheep like the vast majority of the population? Sheep follow orders and are easily led They are allowing the white-majority nations of Europe and North America to become overrun by those who would like nothing more than to do us harm and to turn our democracies into sharia-led police states." A chart offered points for attacks against Islam, such as pulling off a woman's headscarf, 25; killing a Muslim, 500; bombing a mosque, 1,000 points; "nuke Mecca," 2,500 points. "They have hurt you, they have made your loved ones suffer. They have caused you pain and heartache. What are you going to about it?"

The letters went primarily to Muslim communities. Politician Riaz Ahmed received one at his Bradford home.

April 27: The West Midlands Police force was considering terrorism as a motive in an afternoon hit-and-run collision involving a silver car that injured two men in their 20s outside a mosque in Birmingham. One man suffered a head injury and the other was "walking wounded."

May 23: Prosecutor Annabel Darlow told a jury at London's Woolwich Crown Court that alleged British ISIS supporter Husnain Rashid, 32, encouraged attacks on 4-year-old Prince George, heir to the throne. Rashid provided an "e-toolkit for terrorism" on an online channel he ran under the name

the Lone Mujahid, calling for attacks on such targets as “injecting poison into supermarket ice creams and targeting Prince George at his first school.” One post showed a photo of the prince, his school’s address, a silhouette of a jihadi fighter and the message “even the royal family will not be left alone.” The trial was expected to last six weeks. On July 13, *UPI* reported that jurors at Woolwich Crown Court in London found Husnain Rashid, from Nelson in Lancashire County, guilty of planning an attack on Prince George. Judge Andrew Lees sentenced Rashid to life in prison and to spend a minimum of 25 years behind bars. Rashid changed his plea on May 31 and admitted three counts of engaging in conduct in preparation of terrorist acts—he was given a life sentence for each—and one count of encouraging terrorism related to the October plot. Prosecutors suggested that Rashid planned to flee to Syria to fight for ISIS. Rashid posted suggestions of which British football stadia terrorists could strike following the deadly attack outside Besiktas’s ground in Turkey.

June 4: A jury at the Central Criminal Court found 18-year-old Safaa Boular, 18, guilty of preparing acts of terrorism by plotting an attack on the British Museum after failing in her ambition of becoming a jihadi bride in Syria. Her mother and sister admitted helping her. She planned a grenade and gun attack in messages exchanged with an older ISIS fighter in Syria. She hoped to marry him, but he was killed in 2017. She was arrested in April 2017 for trying to travel to Syria. She tried to enlist her older sister Rizlaine to carry out an attack, using telephoned code words that referred to an attack as an “Alice in Wonderland”-themed tea party. Rizlaine Boular, 22, replied that she knew “a few recipes for some amazing cakes” for a “proper like English tea party kind of thing.” Prosecutors said Rizlaine Boular bought knives and a knapsack and carried out reconnaissance of London landmarks with their mother, Mina Dich. Rizlaine and Mina pleaded guilty to terrorism offenses. Metropolitan Police counterterrorism chief Dean Haydon said, “This involved a family with murderous intent, the first all-female terrorist plot in the UK connected to (IS) As a family unit, they are pretty dysfunctional.”

AP reported on August 3, 2018, that Judge Mark Dennis sentenced Safaa Boular to a life sentence, with a minimum of 13 years in prison, observing, “she knew what she was doing and acted with open eyes.” In June, Rizlaine Boular, 22, was jailed for life with a minimum term of 16 years while Mina Dich, 44, received an extended sentence of eleven years and nine months.

June 12: Jack Renshaw, 23, alleged member of the banned British neo-Nazi group National Action and White Jihad, pleaded guilty to planning to

murder Labour Party legislator Rosie Cooper and a police officer who had previously interviewed him about alleged race-hate offenses. Renshaw was accused of buying a machete for the attack in 2017. He pleaded guilty to preparing acts of terrorism as he went on trial alongside five other alleged members of the outlawed group. All six denied belonging to the group. Prosecutors said the plot was foiled when a disenchanted member of the group reported it to an anti-racism organization. The British government banned National Action in 2016, describing it as a “virulently racist, anti-Semitic and homophobic” neo-Nazi organization. The group had praised far-right extremist Thomas Mair, who murdered Labour Party lawmaker Jo Cox in 2016.

June 26: A jury at London’s Central Criminal Court found Khalid Ali, 28, guilty of plotting an attack on lawmakers outside the Houses of Parliament. During his arrest in April 2017, police found three knives tucked into his clothes. He had been under police surveillance since his return from Afghanistan, where prosecutors alleged he spent five years making bombs for the Taliban. An FBI database determined that his fingerprints matched those found on bomb-making equipment recovered in Afghanistan. Prosecutors said that Ali intended to kill a police officer, service member or lawmaker “in response to what he saw as Western aggression against Muslims around the world.” Judge Nicholas Hilliard scheduled sentencing for July 12.

June 30: Police announced that “Emergency services were called to an address in Muggleton Road, Amesbury on Saturday evening (June 30) after” Dawn Sturgess, 44, and Charlie Rowley, 45, “were found unconscious in a property.” On July 4, 2018, Wiltshire police declared a “major incident” after a man and woman in their 40s were believed to have been exposed to an “unknown substance” near Salisbury. Counterterrorism officers joined the investigation. Former Russian intelligence officer Sergei Skirpal and his adult daughter Yulia were treated after being poisoned by the Soviet-era nerve agent Novichok four months earlier. Sturgess died on July 8. She was one of five people who became seriously ill after being exposed to the nerve agent in the Salisbury area. On July 13, British detectives said that a small bottle found in Rowley’s home tested positive for Novichok. Rowley had regained consciousness.

July 18: A jury at the Old Bailey courthouse in London convicted ISIS loyalist Naa’imur Zakariyah Rahman, 20, of planning to bomb the entry gates to the prime minister’s residence and office at 10 Downing Street, kill the guards there and then attack Theresa May with a knife or gun, beheading her. An extremist loyal to the Islamic State group

has been found guilty of plotting to kill the British prime minister. Rahman hailed from Birmingham. Authorities arrested him in November 2017 after he collected a backpack he believed was stuffed with explosives by ISIS members. He had instead been in contact with undercover police, including “Shaq,” who presented himself as an ISIS weapons fixer. Prosecutors said he planned to be killed during the attack. Rahman claimed to be Bangladeshi-British. Authorities spotted him three years earlier regarding concerns that the then-teen was vulnerable to brainwashing by his uncle. His uncle, who left the UK for Syria in 2014, aimed to persuade his nephew to stage an attack and had sent him bombmaking materials. A coalition drone strike near Raqqa, Syria, killed the uncle, Musadikur Rohaman, in June 2017. Rahman decided to avenge the death. Instead, an FBI-MIS team thwarted him. On August 31, Judge Charles Haddon-Cave sentenced Rahman, 21, to life with no chance of parole for 30 years.

July 22: During the afternoon, a boy, 3, sitting in a stroller was splashed with a caustic substance in a Home Bargains discount store in Worcester, sustaining severe burns on his arm and face. Four men were taken into custody; three of them, aged 22, 25 and 26, were arrested in London, more than 100 miles away. AP reported that a man, 39, was arrested on suspicion of conspiracy to cause grievous bodily harm. Police said the boy was deliberately targeted. Police arrested a fifth man, 41, on July 24 for conspiracy to commit grievous bodily harm. On July 25, West Mercia Police charged five men with conspiracy to commit grievous bodily harm in the intentional targeting of the child in the acid attack. The Wolverhampton father, 39, of the boy was among those charged. Police identified the others as Norbert Pulko, 22; Jan Dudi, 25; and Adam Cech, 27; and Jabar Paktia, 41. Their next court date was set for August 28.

August 14: *Britain Today* of the KVH Media Group on August 15, 2018, reported that a silver Ford Fiesta crashed into pedestrians and cyclists near the Houses of Parliament in London’s Westminster area at 7:40 a.m. during morning rush hour, injuring three people. Two were hospitalized. The vehicle crashed into a security barrier. No weapons were found in the car. Police deemed it a terrorist attack. A British citizen of Sudanese origin, Salih Khater, 29, was charged at Westminster Magistrates’ Court with attempting to kill police officers and attempting to kill members of the public. Police said the car was driven from Birmingham the night before. It was seen in the Tottenham Court Road area between 1:25 a.m. and 5:55 a.m. It was then driven around the Westminster area from 6 a.m. until the attack. Authorities searched two Birmingham ad-

resses and a Nottingham residential property on Peveril Street. Police said he apparently was not known to MIS or counterterrorism police. His Facebook page said he worked as a shop manager and studied at Sudan University of Science and Technology.

September 1: Edward John Harris of Cardiff, Wales was charged in Westminster Magistrates Court with four counts of making or possessing explosives and four counts of possession of a document containing information useful for terrorism after an investigation by the Wales Extremism and Counter Terrorism police unit.

September 4: Met.police.uk reported the arrest of three females: a woman, 53; a girl, 16, at an address in west London; and a woman, 26, at a separate address in west London, on suspicion of terrorism offences as part of an investigation by the Metropolitan Police’s Counter Terrorism Command. They were held on suspicion of funding terrorism contrary to section 17 of the Terrorism Act of 2000.

September 8: A woman wearing a headscarf and brandishing a foot-long kitchen knife chased pedestrians during the morning in a town center in Barnsley, South Yorkshire, slightly injuring a man while market traders were setting up for the day. Trader Abdul Razzaq followed her to the train station and identified her to police, saying she shouted, “kill, kill, kill!” Police arrested her. Counterterrorism police joined the investigation. The next day, police charged Ayaan Ali, 28, of London, with attempted murder, affray, and possession of an offensive weapon. Chief Superintendent Scott Green said that police can “confirm definitively that this was not an act of terrorism.”

September 19: British police investigated a possible hate crime after a car hit pedestrians near a Muslim community center and mosque in the Cricklewood area of northwest London in the morning, injuring three people following a confrontation between three men and a woman in their mid-20s in a car and a large group of people visiting the center. Anti-Muslim taunts were heard from those in the car, which reportedly sustained minor damage from some of the people from the center. Two people were hospitalized. Two of the injured were men in their 20s. A man in his 50s sustained a serious leg injury. Police did not treat the case as related to terrorism, suggesting it was a hate crime. The car sped off. The foursome had been asked by security staff at the Hussaini Association community center to leave its private parking lot prior to the incident. Some 1,500 people were leaving the center after an event to celebrate Ashura.

October 19: Jihadi preacher Anjem Choudary, 51,

was released from the high security Belmarsh section of Frankland Prison in southeast London after serving less than half of a 5½-year prison sentence for encouraging support for ISIS, subject to a strict supervision regime. He was moved to a probation hostel, where he was to reside for six months. He was expected to wear an electronic tag, prevented from leaving London, speaking to children, organizing meetings, attending certain mosques, faced a night-time curfew and was barred from using the Internet and from contacting anyone charged with extremist-related offences unless he receives prior approval from authorities. He qualified for early release because of time served before conviction. His name was added to a U.N. sanctions list. He led such groups as al-Muhajiroun, Islam4UK and Muslims Against Crusades. The *New York Times* quoted Nick Lowles, CEO of the UK anti-racist watchdog group Hope Not Hate, as saying “No other British citizen has had so much influence over so many terrorists as Choudary—we’ve tracked over 120 Islamist terrorists linked to him—and his release is likely to turbocharge an already-energized far right.”

November 5: British police charged Steven Bishop, 40, of south London, with violating the Terrorism Act by preparing a terrorist act and collecting information likely to be useful to a person preparing an attack. He was arrested on October 29, 2018, and was to appear in Westminster Magistrates’ Court on November 6. A south London man, 47, arrested on October 29 on suspicion of preparing terrorist acts was released without charge on November 5.

November 9: Police in north London arrested a man, 57, and a woman, 20, on suspicion of violating the Terrorism Act. He was arrested on suspicion of preparation of terrorist acts and she was arrested on suspicion of possessing money or property for “the purposes of terrorism.” Police searched locations in north London and Luton.

November 12: A jury at Birmingham Crown Court found Daniel Bogunovic, Adam Thomas, 22; and Claudia Patatas, 38, guilty of being members of the outlawed far-right group National Action. Thomas and Patatas had given their son the middle name Adolf after Adolf Hitler. Family photos included one of Patatas holding their newborn while Thomas holds a flag emblazoned with the Nazi swastika. Another showed the child wearing polka-dot footie pajamas, while the father wears the sort of hooded robe favored by Ku Klux Klansmen. Three others had pleaded guilty before the trial began. Prosecutors said the defendants attended meetings of the group and exchanged *WhatsApp* messages praising the Nazis’ murder of Jews. Sentencing was set for December 14.

On December 18, 2018, the *Washington Post* reported that following a seven-week trial, Birmingham Crown Court in November convicted Claudia Patatas and Adam Thomas of terrorism charges, including membership in the banned white-power group National Action. Thomas was also found guilty of possessing instructions to make a bomb. On December 18, *BBC* reported that Thomas was sentenced to more than six years in prison; she was to serve five years. In January, authorities arrested Thomas, a British warehouse security guard, and Patatas, a Portuguese-born photographer, with four other men and charged with being members of National Action. When National Action was banned, the group re-named itself the TripleKMafia, an allusion to the Ku Klux Klan. West Midlands Police Detective Chief Superintendent Matt Ward said, “We now know they were a dangerous, well-structured organization.... Their aim was to spread neo-Nazi ideology by provoking a race war in the UK and they had spent years acquiring the skills to carry this out.... They had researched how to make explosives. They had gathered weapons. They had a clear structure to radicalize others. Unchecked they would have inspired violence and spread hatred and fear across the West Midlands.” The couple kept an ax and a machete at home, and authorities found a crossbow near the newborn’s crib. They also owned a mug with an SS emblem, a cookie cutter shaped like a swastika, two couch cushions with swastikas, and a holiday sideboard in their living room had KKK figures and the words “May all your Christmases be white.”

Police also announced the conviction of two other members of National Action: Mikko Vehvilainen and Alex Deakin. Ward said that Vehvilainen, 34, a Finland native, was a lance corporal in the British army who had “access to young men who could be radicalized and recruited into the group. He was an incredibly dangerous individual and a key part of the National Action strategy.”

November 21: In the morning, counterterrorism police investigated two improvised explosive devices that were found in an unoccupied apartment that was being refurbished in the Craven Park neighborhood of northwest London. On the morning of November 22, counterterrorism police arrested a man, 48, in northwest London on suspicion of violating the Explosive Substances Act. Detectives did not believe he was linked to a terrorist organization.

November 28: Counterterrorism police officers arrested a man, 18, in south London on suspicion of encouraging terrorism.

December 19–21: Flights into and from Gatwick Airport were cancelled during the night and into

the next morning when two unauthorized “industrial-grade” drones were found buzzing the airfield between 9 p.m. and 8:45 a.m. Stewart Wingate, Gatwick’s chief executive, said that the drone intrusion was “highly targeted” and designed to cause “maximum disruption” just before Christmas. Superintendent Justin Burtenshaw, the airport police commander, said, “We believe this to be a deliberate act to disrupt the airport. However, there are absolutely no indications to suggest this is terror-related.” *NPR* reported that the airport reopened at 6 a.m. on December 21 after a 36-hour shutdown. Flights were temporarily suspended for more than an hour at 5:10 p.m. after 40 drone sightings. The drone sightings caused the cancellation or diversions of more than 1,000 flights.

AP and the *New York Times* reported that on the evening of December 21, police in Crawley, the closest major town to the airport, arrested Paul Gait, 47, and his wife, Elaine Kirk, 54, on suspicion of “the criminal use of drones” and disrupting civil aviation services “to endanger or likely to endanger safety of operations or persons.” Anyone found to be behind the disruption could face up to five years in prison for endangering the safety of an aircraft. *CNN* and *NPR* reported that the couple was released without charge on December 23. Sussex Police Detective Chief Superintendent Jason Tingley announced, “Both people have fully co-operated with our inquiries and I am satisfied that they are no longer suspects in the drone incidents at Gatwick.”

Gatwick Airport offered a £50,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible.

CNN and *Sky News* reported on December 23 that a damaged drone was found in Horley, near Gatwick Airport’s perimeter.

December 31: *CNN* and *AP* reported that a man, 25, with a long kitchen knife shouted “Allah” and stabbed three people at the Manchester Victoria Metrolink railway station at 9 p.m. during New Year’s Eve celebrations. Male British Transport Police Sergeant Lee Valentine was stabbed in the shoulder, and another man and a woman, both in their 50s, were hospitalized with serious knife injuries to their abdomens. The woman suffered additional injuries to her face. Four police officers, including Valentine, used pepper spray and a taser to arrest a man on suspicion of attempted murder and were treating the attack as terrorism. They searched his home in the Cheetham Hill neighborhood of Manchester on January 1, 2019. *BBC* producer Sam Clack was on the platform and heard the man distinctly shout “Allah,” but he did not hear the rest of the sentence. *AP* quoted an eyewitness who said the attacker chanted Islamic slogans during the stabbings. The suspect was detained under Britain’s Mental Health Act and was assessed by mental health professionals for possible placement in a psychiatric hospital for treatment.

LATIN AMERICA

Argentina

November 14: A bomb exploded during the night near the mausoleum of a police chief assassinated by anarchists a century earlier, injuring a woman suspected of involvement.

A bag of explosives was thrown at the home of a judge. Those devices did not go off until a controlled detonation by police.

Police arrested 12 presumed anarchists in connection with two homemade bomb attacks two weeks before world leaders gather in Buenos Aires for the Group of 20 summit.

Bolivia

February 13: In the late night, a bomb explosion killed four people, including Alex Quekana, 3, and wounded ten, including his father, mother, and a brother, during Carnival celebrations in Oruro. Police General Faustino Mendoza announced that the device was made of dynamite, ammonium nitrate and fuel oil. Three people were held for questioning but soon released. Police were exploring whether a February 10 explosion two blocks away, initially attributed to a food vendor's leaking gas canister, that killed eight, including the daughter and two granddaughters of street vendor Elizabeth Herrera, and wounded 40, was intentional. Authorities said on February 18 that both of the explosions were caused by three kilograms of dynamite, not exploding gas canisters. Police found a small piece of dynamite in a hotel bathroom in the city.

Brazil

March 14: During the night, two gunmen shot in the head four times Marielle Franco, 38, a popular councilwoman, in Rio de Janeiro's Estacio da Sa neighborhood, killing her. They also gunned down her driver, Anderson Pedro Gomes, and injured Franco's press officer, Fernanda Chaves. She was sit-

ting in a car that had blackout windows. Franco had participated in an event focused on empowering young black women. She was a member of the leftist Socialism and Liberty Party known for her social work in poor and marginalized communities and outspokenness against police violence. Public Security Minister Raul Jungmann told reporters in April 2018 that the killings were "very probably the work of Rio de Janeiro's militias." On December 13, 2018, AP reported that Brazilian police served several arrest, search and seizure warrants in connection with the murders.

March 27: The Workers' Party claimed that gunshots hit two buses in a caravan for former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva's campaign tour traveling from Quedas do Iguacu to Laranjeiras do Sul in Parana State in southern Brazil. No one was hurt.

September 6: A knife-wielding man stabbed Jair Bolsonaro, 63, a far-right congressman who was a leading candidate in the Brazilian presidential race, during a rally in Juiz de Fora as he was being carried on the shoulders of a supporter. Dr. Luiz Henrique Borsato, one of the surgeons who operated on the candidate, said Bolsonaro sustained intestinal damage and serious internal bleeding. He was expected to be in intensive care for seven to ten days. The leader in the polls was former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, who was serving a twelve-year sentence for corruption and was barred from running. Bolsonaro was currently second, although his disapproval rating was higher than any other major candidate. Bolsonaro, a former army captain, praised Brazil's 1964-85 dictatorship and often made derogatory comments about women, blacks and gays. Police arrested suspect Adelio Bispo de Oliveira, 40, within seconds. De Oliveira, who was once affiliated with the leftist Socialism and Liberty Party, told police, "He who sent me was God on high." Luis Boudens, president of the National Federation of Federal Police, said police believed "they were not dealing with

a mentally stable person.” A second suspect was detained, questioned, and released overnight.

September 21: Police arrested Lebanese fugitive Assad Ahmad Barakat in the border city of Foz do Iguacu. He was accused by the U.S. of belonging to Lebanese Hizballah and of financing terrorism. Paraguay sought him for false representation by presenting a declaration of incorrect nationality and omitting information about the loss of nationality. Brazil’s Supreme Court authorized his arrest earlier in September. The Brazilian federal prosecutor’s office said that Barakat’s case met the requirements for an arrest with a view to extradition. He was born in Lebanon and lived in South America for years. Prosecutors said that Barakat applied for refugee status in Brazil when he learned of Paraguay’s arrest warrant. In 2004, the U.S. Treasury Department accused Barakat of serving as a treasurer for Hizballah, and ordered American banks to freeze any of his assets found in the United States. At the time, Barakat was serving time in a Paraguayan prison for tax evasion. Argentine authorities accused associates of Barakat of laundering \$10 million in casinos, and froze the group’s assets. Barakat was extradited from Brazil to Paraguay in 2003 and was convicted of tax evasion. He returned to live in Brazil in 2008 after he was released from prison.

December 11: Gunman Euler Fernando Grandolpho, 49, fired two handguns during afternoon Mass in the Metropolitan Cathedral in Campinas, killing four people and injuring several others before shooting himself in the head after taking a police bullet in the ribs. The motive was unclear. A fifth victim died on December 12, the same day that nearly 1,000 people attended a memorial service for the victims.

Grandolpho, a systems analyst, was not a member of the church. He had held various jobs with government entities, including as an assistant to the prosecutor in the public ministry in Sao Paulo. He lived with his widowed father in a gated community and was once treated for depression.

Chile

January 11–12: Firebombs overnight damaged three Catholic churches, including the Santa Isabel de Hungria Catholic Church, in Santiago. The churches were sprayed with accelerant. Leaflets dropped at one scene railed against the imminent visit of Pope Francis, warned “the next bombs will be in your cassock” and called for a “free” Mapuche nation. No injuries were reported. A bomb squad went to a fourth church, where a barrel of flammable liquid was believed to be inside.

Colombia

January 16: During the night, former Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) guerrillas Wilman Asprilla and Ansel Montoya were shot to death while participating in a campaign event for a congressional candidate running for the group’s new political party.

January 27: A bomb exploded outside a police station in Barranquilla during a morning shift change, killing five officers and injuring more than 40. An urban cell of the National Liberation Army claimed credit. The government had initially blamed a criminal gang. A man with a previous police record for having ELN ties was arrested soon after the attack.

Hours later, two more bombs hit police targets in Barranquilla, killing two police and injuring several other people.

January 29: President Juan Manuel Santos suspended peace talks with the National Liberation Army in Quito, Ecuador after weekend bombings killed seven police officers.

February 27: The National Liberation Army was suspected of a morning attack by leftist rebels on a passing truck carrying soldiers near Tibu along the Venezuelan border that killed five soldiers and wounded ten. The ELN had announced the previous day that it would unilaterally suspend all offensive operations on March 9 in time for congressional elections.

March 12: On March 15, 2018, police announced the arrest on March 12 of Cuban suspect Raul Gutierrez, 45, in Pereira on suspicion of plotting to kill American diplomats in the name of ISIS. A Bogota judge in Bogota ordered him held without bail on terrorism and conspiracy charges. Police in Spain and the FBI aided the investigation. Authorities had intercepted communications in late February in which Gutierrez allegedly discussed plans to make and detonate a homemade explosive in a restaurant in Bogota where he had sought work as a dishwasher and which was frequented by U.S. diplomats. In a *Telegram* message, he allegedly said he was willing to blow himself up for Allah and ISIS. Police seized several electronic devices. Gutierrez pleaded not guilty.

He had been expelled from Colombia twice earlier. In 2015, he entered Colombia legally on a visa with the aim of traveling to the U.S. Authorities found that he had been issued the visa based on false statements and deported him to Cuba. In 2016, he came back illegally from Ecuador, which does not require Cubans to have visas. He was caught in Pereira and was expelled in 2017. He apparently returned to Colombia in early 2018. Prosecutors said he had received precise instructions from people from Spain and Morocco on carrying out an attack

targeting Americans. Prosecutors said they had spotted his hate-filled *Telegram* messages against the U.S. Spanish investigators said he initially planned an attack for March 6, later rescheduling it for March 13.

On May 4, 2018, *AP* reported that he told *W Radio* on May 3 that he was part of a right-wing underground cell that sought to attack leftist politicians. He gave no proof, and haltingly identified one of his targets, presidential candidate Gustavo Petro.

May 2: The country's leading presidential contender, conservative Ivan Duque, announced that he was reinforcing security measures after police warned him of a plot to send a letter bomb to his Bogota campaign headquarters.

August 2: The National Center for Historical Memory reported that more than 260,000 people died from violence during six decades of guerrilla conflict in Colombia, including murders, massacres and terrorist attacks. Most of the dead were civilians. Most of the killers were either Marxist guerrillas or paramilitary groups formed to fight them. Most of the 80,000 people who disappeared were not recovered. More than 37,000 of those killed were kidnapping victims, and nearly 15,700 were victims of sexual violence. The wave of political violence from 1948 to 1958 killed 200,000.

September 8: *AFP* reported that Colombian armed forces killed Victor David Segura, deemed by President Ivan Duque as "the most dangerous" dissident guerrilla from now-disbanded Marxist rebels FARC in the drug violence-infested jungle area on the border with Ecuador. He called Segura "the dissidents' main ringleader ... in the Pacific." Also killed was his sister, Carmen, who was also a high-ranking rebel operative. Segura had been involved in a dispute over the drug trade with another dissident, Walther Arizala, alias "Gaicho," and was accused of being behind the murders of an Ecuadoran press team kidnapped in March 2018.

September 12: The National Liberation Army (ELN) freed six hostages it took in August 2018 amid demands from President Ivan Duque that it release all hostages and cease kidnapping in order for peace talks to resume. The International Committee of the Red Cross took part in the humanitarian mission in Choco Department. The ELN had intercepted a small boat carrying three police officers, an army soldier and two civilian contractors on a remote river in western Colombia.

September 15: President Duque said the nation's most-wanted criminal fugitive, Walter Arizala, alias Guacho, leader of a holdout faction of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, was injured in combat along the border with Ecuador.

November 20: *Reuters* reported that on November

6, the Colombian government asked Cuba to capture National Liberation Army (ELN) rebel commander Nicolas Rodriguez, alias Gabino. Colombia asked Havana to provide information about the presence of several ELN commanders in Cuban territory, and to act on an Interpol Red Notice "request to locate and provisionally arrest an individual pending extradition" on Rodriguez, who had been in Cuba for several months receiving medical treatment.

December 13: Human Rights Watch reported that dissidents from the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) were conducting a campaign of violence in the port city of Tumaco. HRW cited more than 120 crimes, including 21 murders, disappearances and rape, most taking place after the 2016 signing of the peace accord. The homicide rate in Tumaco was four times higher than Colombia's national average in 2017. HRW cited the murder of a fisherman who was found shot to death with a sign on his chest that read "for thieving and snitching." HRW said that 300 members of the Los Rastrojos criminal gang had become employees of the FARC before the peace deal but were not counted as former rebels when it came time to implement the accord. Many joined dissident factions of FARC.

December 21: Colombian President Ivan Duque announced that a special forces unit near Tumaco had killed Walter Arizala, alias Guacho, 29, a former FARC rebel who broke from the peace process and terrorized southern Colombia residents and engaged in drug trafficking. Arizala led a few dozen Oliver Sinisterra Front guerrillas in Colombia's Narino State. The killing of Arizala and a close confidant was part of the months-long, U.S.-backed Operation Perla IX manhunt that followed the March kidnapping and murder of three Ecuadoran press workers from Ecuador's *El Comercio* newspaper in the border area. His followers were believed to have killed three Colombian judicial workers in July, and conducted several civilian kidnappings and car bombings against military facilities in Ecuador. Arizala, a mid-level FARC commander, joined FARC as a teenager. Authorities attributed 15 deaths to his group.

December 29: Foreign Minister Carlos Holmes said Colombian intelligence services were investigating a possible plot involving Venezuelans to assassinate President Ivan Duque. *Blu Radio* reported that three Venezuelans in possession of an assault rifle with a telescopic scope as well as a 9-mm mini-Uzi, ammunition and stun grenade were arrested earlier in the month in Valledupar and Barranquilla. *Blu* speculated that a plot would likely be supported by armed Colombian leftist rebels or drug-trafficking organizations and would coincide with the start of Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro's second term in January 2019.

Ecuador

March 20: Governor Pablo Hadathy Rodas of northwestern Esmeraldas Province told Colombian *BLU Radio* that a guerrilla faction that was once linked to the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) conducted an attack that left three soldiers dead. He said that the rebels were involved in drug trafficking.

March 26: Interior Minister Cesar Navas said reporter Javier Ortega and photographer Paul Rivas, who were working with Ecuadoran newspaper *El Comercio*, were kidnapped with their driver Efrain Segarra in the morning near the border with Colombia after passing through an Ecuadoran military checkpoint and being warned of the dangerous conditions ahead. The trio were investigating a rise in drug-related violence along the Colombia-Ecuador border. The news team was transported to Colombia. Authorities said they were in touch with the kidnappers. On April 3, the journalists appeared in a 22-second proof-of-life video sent to Colombia's RCN network. The three men were chained together at their necks. They relayed the kidnappers' demands that Ecuadoran President Lenin Moreno free three unnamed combatants and end anti-narcotics cooperation with Colombia. "President Lenin Moreno, our life is in your hands," a journalist said. The trio claimed that the kidnappers belonged to the Oliver Sinisterra Front, a group of a few dozen combatants that authorities said was led by former FARC rebel Guacho. Authorities blamed a FARC splinter that refused to disarm as part of the 2016 peace agreement. The video gave the impression that the trio was held in Colombia.

On April 12, Ecuadorean President Lenin Moreno returned home early from a regional summit amid unconfirmed reports that the hostages were murdered. He confirmed the news the next day. Colombia's RCN network said it had handed over to authorities photos of the bodies of the three men. The next day, Moreno confirmed their deaths and offered a \$100,000 reward for information leading to the capture of Walter Arizala, alias Guacho.

On June 21, 2018, *AP* reported that the bodies of the three hostages may have been found. A fourth body was later found. *AP* reported on June 23 that Colombian authorities said they were 99 percent sure they successfully identified the bodies by using dental records. The government said the murderers had surrounded the pits in Colombia where they were found with mines. The Colombian government confirmed the bodies' identification on June 25. 18032601

April 17: A dissident FARC splinter kidnapped two more people in the same border area where three press workers taken hostage by the group were

killed the previous week. Authorities showed a proof-of-life video in which a man and woman tied with rope at their necks beg President Lenin Moreno, saying "Mr. President, please help us, give us a hand, so the same thing doesn't happen to us as it did the journalists.... We have kids, and family.... We have nothing to do with this war." The hostages said they were from Ecuador. 18041701

July 11: Holdout rebels from the demobilized FARC ambushed a vehicle of judicial investigators at the border with Ecuador, killing three of them. Two of the men were incinerated when the terrorists torched the vehicle. The group was led by former FARC mid-level commander Walter Arizala, alias Guacho. The three worked for the chief prosecutor's office in Narino State. One of the dead was Willington Montenegro, 24-year veteran of the chief prosecutor's office and a lawyer who also served as an explosives expert. He was accompanied by another explosives expert and a financial administrator in the organized crime unit.

August: On September 12, 2018, the National Liberation Army (ELN) freed six hostages it took in August 2018 amid demands from President Ivan Duque that it release all hostages and cease kidnapping in order for peace talks to resume. The International Committee of the Red Cross took part in the humanitarian mission in Choco Department. The ELN had intercepted a small boat carrying three police officers, an army soldier and two civilian contractors on a remote river in western Colombia.

Guantanamo Bay

May 2: The U.S. repatriated Ahmed Mohammed Haza al-Darbi, 43, from Gitmo to Saudi Arabia, where he was scheduled to serve out the remainder of his 13-year sentence in connection with a 2002 attack on a French ship. It was the first time the Trump administration authorized the departure of an inmate from the facility at Guantanamo Bay. Darbi pleaded guilty in 2014 to war crimes in relation to what military prosecutors characterized as plots to attack international ships in the Middle East. Although he had been captured at an airport in Azerbaijan in June 2002, before al-Qaeda attacked the French oil tanker *MV Limburg* in October 2002, he was charged in connection with that assault. Charges included conspiracy, attacking civilian objects, terrorism, and aiding the enemy. A Bulgarian crew member was killed in the attack. He is the brother-in-law of 9/11 hijacker Khalid Almi-hdhar, who helped commandeer the plane that crashed into the Pentagon. Darbi's attorney, Ramzi Kassem, a professor of law at the City University of New York, said his client had taken part in more

than 600 interviews and given eight days of sworn testimony as a cooperating witness. Darbi had been at Guantanamo since August 2002. Darbi called on Saudi authorities to concern themselves with two fellow Saudis at Guantanamo, Mohammed al-Qahtani and Ghassan al-Sharbi. Darbi arrived in Saudi Arabia on May 3.

May 29: The *Washington Post* reported that 23 former Gitmo detainees who had been transferred to a secretive rehabilitation program run by the United Arab Emirates had rarely been seen since their move. They included Afghan citizen Haji Wali Mohammed, held at Guantanamo for 14 years, and Ravil Mingazov, a Russian; both arrived in January 2017. Afghan citizen Obaidullah was transferred in August 2016.

Guatemala

May 9: Luis Marroquin, an indigenous leader of the Farmworker Development Committee, was killed in a bookstore in Jalapa department.

May 10: Jose Can Xol, an indigenous member of the Altiplano Farmworker Committee, was killed in the Alta Verapaz area.

May 13: Mateo Chaman Paau, an indigenous leader of the Altiplano Farmworker Committee, was killed during the night in Coban township. The group said he had received threats.

Peru

September 11: A Peruvian court convicted and gave a second life sentence to imprisoned Maoist-inspired Shining Path leader Abimael Guzman, 83, for masterminding a 1992 car bombing in a middle-class Lima neighborhood that killed 25 people and injured 155. Guzman was serving a life sentence for a 1983 massacre in an Andean village. Guzman was captured in 1992.

Uruguay

July 24: *AP* reported that former Guantanamo detainee Abu Wa'el Dhiab, unhappy with his resettlement in Uruguay, in late June again left Uruguay, this time to Turkey. Immigration authorities suggested he slipped across the border to Brazil. Some reports suggested Turkey deported him to his native Syria. In 2017, he was deported by Morocco, where he had arrived with a faked passport. He was turned away from a flight to Russia because he did not have an entry visa. In 2016, he tried to enter South Africa, having also been in Venezuela. Turkey, Lebanon and Qatar rejected taking him. He was represented by attorney Juan Segura. He was held for 12 years at Gitmo.

Venezuela

February 8: Three gunmen kidnapped Ana Isabel Soto, 72, mother of Pittsburgh Pirates catcher Elias Dias, 24, at her home in San Francisco, 430 miles west of Caracas. Judicial police, state police and other security officers rescued her on February 11. Zulia State Governor Omar Prieto tweeted that he had ordered state police to investigate a police anti-drug team for alleged involvement in the kidnapping. Diaz played 64 games for Pittsburgh in 2017, hitting .223 with 19 RBIs and 18 runs.

August 4: At 5:40 p.m., drones carrying explosives attacked a televised speech by President Nicolás Maduro in an apparent assassination attempt that injured seven soldiers, three gravely. Hundreds of National Guard soldiers broke ranks and ran for cover in Caracas during a celebration of the National Guard's 81st anniversary. Maduro had said, "To the conscious Venezuela, we are going to bet for the good of our country, the hour of the economic recovery has come and we need" when explosions were heard. Communications Minister Jorge Rodríguez claimed "The event is evidence of desperation of ultraright leaders who, being defeated politically, continue to resort to criminal practices, and they have failed once again." Three hours later, Maduro told the nation that some of the "far right" plotters had been captured and blamed Venezuelan dissidents in the United States and Colombia and Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos. "This was an attack to kill me.... Already, the first investigations show that those intellectually and financially responsible for this attack live in the United States of North America, in Florida. I hope the government of Donald Trump is willing to combat terrorist groups that want to attack presidents of peaceful nations." Dissident soldiers in T-shirts claimed credit. U.S. National Security Advisor John Bolton denied involvement. Local journalists said the explosion went off at the Residencias Don Eduardo apartment building in central Caracas. The next day, Venezuelan authorities detained six people suspected of using the two drones which each had a kilogram of explosives. Two of the detainees had earlier been held for street protests. Security guards disabled one drone; the second crashed into a nearby building. On August 16, 2018, the *USA Times* of the KVH Media Group on August 12, 2018, reported that authorities arrested a general and a colonel.

CNN reported on October 9, 2018, that Venezuelan government officials claimed that Fernando Albán, 56, a Caracas city councilor, Maduro critic, and a suspect accused of trying to assassinate Maduro using drones, died by suicide after jumping out a tenth floor window of the Bolivarian Intelligence Service. Maduro critics accused the regime of

murdering Albán. Authorities arrested Albán on October 5. Interior Minister Nestor Luis Reverol tweeted that as Albán was being transferred to court, he threw himself out of a window. Attorney General Tarek William Saab told state broadcaster VTV that Albán threw himself from the window after asking permission to go to the bathroom. Albán's lawyer, Joel Garcia, labeled Saab's account "totally false."

November 4: The Venezuelan government claimed

that three of its soldiers were killed and ten injured in an ambush by a Colombian paramilitary group in Amazonas State along the border with Colombia. Venezuelan Defense Minister Vladimir Padrino Lopez said that the attack was retaliation for Venezuela's arrest hours earlier of nine people in the group from Colombia. One of the detainees was a Colombian and leader of Colombia's National Liberation Army (ELN), Luis Felipe Ortega Bernal. 18110401

MIDDLE EAST

January 4: The IS branch in the Sinai Peninsula released a 22-minute video calling on its adherents to attack Hamas and showed the execution of what it deemed a collaborator with Hamas' military wing. A knife-wielding narrator urged, "Never surrender to them. Use explosives, silenced pistols, and sticky bombs. Bomb their courts and their security locations, for these are the pillars of tyranny that prop up its throne." The video began with President Trump's announcement on Jerusalem, then complained of Hamas' crackdown on jihadist groups in Gaza and their failure to prevent the U.S. declaration of Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

January 19: The *Long War Journal* reported that AQAP earlier in the week released a 36-minute video entitled "Secrets, Its Dangers and the Departure of the Best of Us," in which three senior AQAP leaders call for better operational security.

Ibrahim al-Qosi, a former Guantanamo detainee, discussed the importance of "preserving secrets" in avoiding drone attacks. He observed "The Arabs regard the one who does not keep a secret to be lacking honor." A "secret among the best of people is concealed.... A secret with me is a closed house. Its keys are lost and doors sealed.... To every Muslim who transgresses with his tongue, may he seek forgiveness from Allah, and know that there are Angels who record each and every word he utters.... [Do] not let your tongue or your phone be a reason [for] revealing the secrets of your brothers and lead to their imprisonment and killing and allow the enemy to rejoice in our misfortune."

His theme was echoed by AQAP emir Qasim al-Raymi, who argued, "Our problem today is the exposure of Muslim secrets.... That's it! We are an open book; our way of thinking is exposed for the enemy to benefit from.... [Some] brothers [cannot] hide a secret even from their [wives].... Then the woman gets on the phone and spreads information that so and so is in a particular place. Brothers have been killed by such irresponsible actions of such a woman.... Who is the one exposing the secrets of

the Mujahidin? They are the Mujahidin themselves.... When you see what is going on in the web forums you will be surprised. The transgression against the work of the Mujahidin that goes on is unbelievable. They expose [a] Mujahidin's visions and plans, and then go on to ... open debate in a chat room ... what is (the aim of) this debate?" Turning to mobile phones, he called them "a different source of getting information ... much more dangerous than the one before.... Today we consider the mobile phones in our hands as a form of spy agent. An agent that is always with us.... We believe that over that last period, especially after our withdraw[al], that most of the drone strikes were due to cell phones."

The U.S. designated al-Qaeda veteran Ibrahim al-Banna, alias Sheikh Ibrahim Abu Saleh, a terrorist in early 2017 and offered \$5 million for information leading to his whereabouts. He counseled, "It is upon every Mujahid in the path of Allah to preserve the secrets of his fellow brothers and to be cautious not to unknowingly serve the enemy of Allah, enriching them with information that exposes the operations of Mujahidin, or play a role in the targeting of our brothers and letting the enemy attain a victory which he has never even dreamed of.... And may the brothers know that the mobile phone is a complete[ly] capable spy, that transfers information. An "electronic chip" inside the phone "is ready to guide a missile.... It is as if the owner of the phone is saying, 'here I am and this is my location.'" "A mobile phone is a spy to its owner, a spy to the group, especially if it is in the hands of a man who does not differentiate between what to say and not to.... It is a roaming electronic chip in the hands of its bearer and a danger to his brothers who accompany him. It is a tool that pinpoints houses and location[s] of the brothers. On top of all this it is the only way a spy can communicate and send information directly and promptly from the spy to the enemy."

AQAP then ordered a "complete prohibition on the use of phones and means of communication

through the Internet.... To whomever disobeys this, [he] will face a penalty with regard to the level of his crime.... Whosoever uses words in conducting his work, then he should limit his words to what is necessary only.”

August 22: ISIS’s *al-Furqan Foundation* ran a 54-minute audio titled “Give Glad Tidings to the Patient” by ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, who called on his adherents to “patiently persevere” in fighting the group’s enemies everywhere. His last audio message was on September 28, 2017. In the new audio, he congratulated followers on the occasion of the Muslim al-Ahda feast and cited such current events as Turkey’s battle with the U.S. over its detention of American pastor Andrew Brunson. He said ISIS faced “fear and hunger” but would enjoy “glad tidings.” He observed, “America is going through the worst time in its entire existence” and said Russia was competing with the U.S. over regional influence and clout. He chided rebel surrenders in southern Syria to government forces, calling them traitors and urging fighters to join ISIS. He noted, “Seditions and hardships [are] increasing to their darkest night being cast over the people of Islam.... {The U.S.} claimed a “so-called victory in expelling the [Islamic] State from the cities and countryside in Iraq and Syria, but the land of God is wide and the tides of war change.” He said the U.S. is “held in contempt” even by its allies. He blamed Sunni collaborators for ISIS setbacks. He called for more lone-wolf attacks, underlining, “Carry out an attack that breaks their heart, and rip them apart.... Either with gunfire, or a stab to their bodies, or a bombing in their countries.... Do not forget about running people over on the roads.” “For the believer Mujahideen, the scale of victory or defeat is not counting on a city or town being stolen or subject to those who have aerial superiority, or intercontinental missiles or smart bombs, and not how many followers they have.... The scale depends on how much faith the worshipper has.” He charged that the U.S. uses “the gang policy” which is a “sign of weakness.” He predicted that Russian and Syrian military, “with the help of traitors,” were about to overrun Idlib, Syria.

The U.S. Defense Department and the United Nations estimated that there were still 30,000 ISIS fighters at large in Syria and Iraq.

August 23: Al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri released a five-minute video calling on Muslims everywhere—including fighters and preachers—to unite in jihad.

September 11: Ayman al-Zawahiri released a 30-minute video entitled “How to Confront America,” in which he called on Muslims to wage war against the United States throughout the world, saying Washington’s transfer of its embassy in Israel from

Tel Aviv to Jerusalem was evidence of its anti-Muslim enmity. “America (is) the number one enemy of Muslims ... despite of its professed secularism.” He called for Muslim unity and jihadists to close ranks. The *Long War Journal* added that he observed, “We must wage the war—in any part of the Islamic World—as if it is a single war with different fronts against a united enemy ... the tribal areas in Pakistan, in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Palestine, Egypt, Algeria, Tunisia, Yemen, Mali, Somalia and elsewhere” are not just “between the Muslims and the local governments only ... always been between the Muslims and the system of the major international criminals—America being the foremost.” While jihadists were “hitting hard at America,” they also should be “bleeding it to death economically and militarily, until it departs from our lands defeated—with the permission of Allah—just as it had departed from Vietnam, Aden, Iraq and Somalia.” Citing the 9/11 attacks, he noted that, “Seventeen years have passed since Bush launched his Crusader war against Muslims—a war linked with the historical enmity directed towards Islam from its dawn to this very day.” He claimed that the “hand of the secular Crusader West,” especially under the “leadership of America,” is “behind all of the conflicts involving Muslims today” via the West’s “silent approval, connivance, collusion, or intrigues.” This “religious enmity” and “Zionist Crusader bias” drives the war, although the West tries “to hide [the] religious nature” of the conflict “with all shades of propaganda and lies ... many in the West have abandoned Christianity and become secularists overtly, without adherence to any religion.... Recognition of Jerusalem as the eternal capital of Israel ... is a clear-cut articulation of this Judeo-Christian bias,” which he saw as “stupidity.” American “enmity for Islam has touched almost the entire Muslim world” and there is “hardly a Muslim country” that America hasn’t “meddled” in, such as Kashmir, Pakistan, Burma, Afghanistan, the Philippines (from the 20th Century onward), Chechnya, Bosnia (during the 1990s), Iraq, Syria, the Arabian Peninsula, Egypt, Palestine, the Islamic Maghreb, Somalia and East Africa, and the Sudan. He said Salman Rushdie “insulted the Greatest of Prophets (peace be upon him).” Who “then welcomed him [Rushdie] in the White House? It is America.” America “turns a blind eye to deviant movements and lets them surge in an illusory manner so that their manpower is consumed in senseless battles and so that they keep the Mujahideen engaged with their relentless attacks.” Citing ISIS, “After letting them off for a while so that they may wreak havoc in the ranks of the Jihadi movement, America finally moves in to crush these movements with ruthless use of airpower.... What transpired in Iraq and Syria is evident of this strategy.” “Therefore, everyone who sows discord in the ranks of the

Mujahideen, strives to break their unity and disperse their gathering, and everyone who ignites the fire of internal fighting and strife between the Mujahideen, in reality secures American objectives with his own hands.... By doing so, he saves the Americans great efforts, enormous expenses, human and financial losses—irrespective of the claims or doubts raised by the propagators of discord and seekers of power.” “If the Ummah condemns the efforts of breaking unity, dividing ranks, violating sanctities, and spilling blood unlawfully, the perpetrators of these crimes will think a thousand times before committing them.... Therefore, a broad consensus must be established in all segments of the Ummah against those who commit these crimes so that the Ummah’s general opinion stands in the way of their evil designs.” “We must not seek help from America or help America in fighting Muslims; even if it is against innovative extremists who declare *takfir* on us and deem our blood permissible, and against whom we may be forced to fight.... This is so because we must obey Allah regarding them, even if they disobey Allah regarding us.”

November 30: The *Long War Journal* reported on November 30, 2018, that al-Qaeda’s media team had recently released two pieces on the U.S.-Saudi controversy, including the murder of Jamal Khashoggi.

On November 25, as-Sahab disseminated on *Telegram* and its website an English-language version of Sheikh Awab bin Hasan al-Hasni’s essay “The Love Story Between Salman al Saud and the Pirate Trump.” He suggests, in passing that President Trump has been working for Russian intelligence and that the U.S. is an economically and politically spent force as a result of the 9/11 wars, ready to retreat into “isolation.”

Meanwhile, for the first time since July 2017, AQAP released an edition, its 58th, of the *al-Masra* newsletter. Its editors noted losses of many of its propaganda staff as the reason for the lengthy interruption in the newsletter’s publication. Stories covered the murder of Jamal Khashoggi, and a recent lecture given by al-Qaeda’s Hossam Abdul Raouf, a senior figure in the organization believed based in South Asia.

Afghanistan

January 1: *Army Times* and *AP* reported that U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Mihail Golin, 34, a 10th Special Forces Group soldier, was killed and four others were wounded during an operation in Nangahar Province’s Achin district, in which U.S. forces have been battling ISIS-K and the Taliban. Two wounded service members returned to duty the next day; the other two were in stable condition at a nearby medical facility. Sgt. Golin was assigned to Fort Lee in

New Jersey when not deployed. The weapons sergeant was deployed with 2nd Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group out of Fort Carson, Colorado, in support of Operation Freedom’s Sentinel. He emigrated from Latvia in 2004, and enlisted in the Army in early 2005. He served as an infantryman with the 25th Infantry Division in Alaska before graduating from the Special Forces Qualification Course in 2014. He had served in Iraq and twice in Afghanistan, including in 2009. He earned two Purple Hearts, three Army Commendation Medals and three Army Achievement Medals. 18010101

The Taliban attacked a checkpoint in Farah Province, killing a district police chief as he rushed to the checkpoint and wounding two other policemen.

Airstrikes in Jawzjan Province killed at least 26 ISIS-K fighters, including some from France and Uzbekistan, and wounded another 20 jihadis.

During a battle between Afghan security forces and ISIS-K in Nangarhar Province, one civilian was killed and 14 others, including women and children, were wounded.

January 4: Taliban gunmen stopped a bus in the Bala Buluk district of Farah Province, killing three members of the Afghan security forces.

Reuters, *BBC*, *Pajhwok Afghan News*, *UPI* and *AP* reported that in the evening, a suicide bomber wearing a police or army uniform killed 20 people, including 16 policemen monitoring protests by shopkeepers and conducting an operation against hashish and alcohol sales near the 9th police district in the Bani Hesar (variant Banayee) area of Kabul. Another 27 policemen were wounded. ISIS claimed credit, saying the bomber set off an explosive vest, killing or wounding 80 police and intelligence service personnel.

Fox News and *News Arab* reported the 12-year-old grandson of Usama bin Laden was killed in an airstrike along the Afghanistan-Pakistan border some time in 2017, the boy’s father, Hamza bin Laden, announced in a leaked letter in which he praised his son as a “martyr.” Hamza observed, “He was blessed with a martyr’s death, as he always wished for himself. Yes, he wished for this despite his young age. He always wished for this and asked me if he could be a fighter who sacrificed himself.... On the last days of his life, when he played with the children, he often acted out his martyr’s death. He used to throw himself to the ground, close his eyes, and smile a gentle smile.”

January 11: Two Taliban gunmen disguised as local militiamen injured a U.S. soldier in the Achin district of Nangarhar Province. 18011101

January 12: In the early morning, more than 80 Taliban gunmen attacked a highway security outpost in the Bala Buluk district of Farah Province, killing three policemen.

A would-be suicide bomber's explosives killed a family member and wounded four in Ghor Province. The bomber was not in the facility when the bomb went off.

January 15: Security forces arrested three suspects following a nighttime rocket attack on the Wazir Akbar Khan neighborhood in Kabul that houses many diplomatic missions, news agencies and non-governmental groups. No casualties were reported.

January 16: Three mortar rounds hit the weekly bazaar in Khwaja Sabz Push district in Faryab Province in the morning, killing five people and injuring 45 people, including women and children. The government blamed the Taliban.

January 18: The *Long War Journal* reported on January 21, 2018, that on January 18 the U.S. Embassy in Kabul sent a warning indicating "that extremist groups may be planning an attack against hotels in Kabul" such as the "Hotel Baron near Hamid Karzai International Airport." "These groups may also be targeting public gatherings/demonstrations, government facilities, transportation, markets, and places where foreigners are known to congregate."

January 20: At 9 p.m., six Taliban gunmen wearing suicide vests attacked the Inter-Continental Hotel in Kabul by sneaking in through the kitchen, then took hostages. The hotel was the venue for a meeting of 34 directors of communication and information technology companies in Afghanistan. A fire broke out and explosions went off. Special forces killed two attackers on the sixth floor.

The terrorists killed 22 people, including 14 foreigners and a telecommunications official from Farah Province, before authorities took back the hotel and killed the terrorists after a 13-hour siege. The dead included:

- Eleven foreigners who worked for KamAir, a private Afghan airline.
- Four Americans, including Glenn Selig, spokesman for Trump campaign adviser Rick Gates.
- Two Venezuelan pilots who worked for KamAir: Adelsis Ramos, who earlier flew for the Venezuelan airline Aeropostal, and Pablo Chiosone.
- A German.
- A Greek.
- Anuar Zhainakov, spokesman for Kazakhstan's Foreign Ministry, said a Kazakh citizen born in 1978 was killed.
- Between six and nine Ukrainians died.
- Waheed Poyan, the new consul general to Karachi, Pakistan, and Ahmad Farzan, an employee of the High Peace Council, which facilitates peace talks between the government, Taliban, and other opposition groups.

Ten other people, including six security forces and four civilians, were wounded. Jan Kaare Austheim, a spokesman for the Haukeland university hospital in Bergen, said the facility was treating Arne Strand, 59, Norwegian assistant manager of a Norwegian medical development research institute, who was injured when he fell plus suffered from smoke inhalation. The Chr. Michelsen Institute called Strand one of his country's foremost Afghanistan experts who had visited the country several times in the past decade. No foreign troops were hurt in the standoff.

Authorities rescued more than 150 people, including 41 foreigners, among them two Americans. Security forces defused a car bomb near the hotel after the siege ended. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said the Taliban first planned to attack the hotel the night of January 18 but postponed the raid because there was a wedding underway and they wanted to avoid civilian casualties. The Interior Ministry announced that a private firm began a contract to handle hotel security three weeks earlier. Six years earlier, the Taliban had attacked the hotel.

The Afghan Interior Ministry told CNN that the attackers were part of the Haqqani Network. On January 28, Masoom Stanekzai, the head of Afghanistan's intelligence service, said five suspects were arrested and that another had fled the country. He said four people were arrested in connection with the attack. 18012001

During the night, Taliban gunmen broke into a Balkh Province home where several members of the pro-government Local Uprising Forces militia were gathered, dragged them outside and killed 18 of them, including a tribal leader who served as the local police commander. The LUF operates under the Interior Ministry.

January 21: In the morning, a roadside bomb exploded in Farah Province, killing a deputy provincial police chief and wounding four other police.

A roadside bomb hit a vehicle carrying 13 civilians in the Gulran district of Herat Province, killing 12 of them, according to Abdul Ahad Walizada, a spokesman for the provincial police chief. The 13th person was injured. Walizada blamed the Taliban.

January 24: AP and Reuters reported that six ISIS gunmen wearing police uniforms attacked the Jalalabad office of the Save the Children aid agency, killing five, including two guards at the compound, an army soldier, and two NGO employees, and wounding 26, including six police officers, before the ensuing gun battle with security forces ended ten hours later. Mirwais Samadi, head of the consulate department at Afghanistan's Foreign Ministry, "Some of our countrymen were martyred and

some foreign nationals also were killed.” The attack began at 9 a.m. with a suicide vest (ISIS said car bomb) explosion. Gunmen then entered the compound. Some 45 people hid in a “safe room” during the attack. ISIS’s *Amaq* news agency said it targeted “British and Swedish foundations and Afghan government institutes.” Save the Children was founded in the UK, and a Swedish aid group office and a building of the Afghan Department of Women’s Affairs are nearby. Save the Children suspended operations. 18012401

Gunmen attacked a checkpoint in the Dayak district of Ghazni Province in the morning, killing four Afghan policemen. Six gunmen died and three were injured in the following gun battle.

January 27: At 12:45 p.m., a Taliban suicide bomber set off his ambulance after it passed a checkpoint in the busy Chicken Street area of central Kabul near Jamhuriat Hospital, killing 103, including a few police at a checkpoint and wounding 235. Police spotted the attacker at a second checkpoint but could not stop him in time. He had claimed he was transferring a patient. Police were among the victims. Mohammad Fahim, 20, who worked with Kabul police, was lightly wounded on a hand and his feet. No foreigners were reported injured. Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mohajid said it had targeted police guarding a road leading to the former Interior Ministry in an area densely populated with civilians. The bomb damaged or destroyed dozens of shops and vehicles. On January 28, Masoom Stanekzai, the head of Afghanistan’s intelligence service, said four people had been arrested.

January 29: Before dawn, suicide bombers and gunmen attacked the hilltop Marshal Fahim National Defense University (“Sandhurst in the Sand” military academy) in Kabul, killing 11 Afghan soldiers and wounding 16 in a five-hour gun battle. The terrorists hit an army unit guarding the heavily fortified academy, first setting off a bomb and then attacking with rockets, gunfire and hand grenades. Two terrorists set off their suicide vests, two were killed in the gun battle. One terrorist was arrested. ISIS-K claimed credit, but some Afghan officials blamed the Haqqani network.

February 1: Authorities in the poor Qala-e-Walid neighborhood of Kabul uncovered an ISIS-K hideout filled with explosives and suicide vests. They were led to the location by an ISIS-K insurgent who was captured during the January 29 attack on a military academy in which eleven soldiers died. The terrorists were planning to use the bombs in three upcoming attacks. Neighbors said that three men and a woman had started using the hideout 25 days earlier.

February 8: Joint U.S.-Afghan air raids hit ISIS-K in Jowzjan Province, while U.S. fighter jets attacked

Taliban camps in Badakshan Province that were providing support to Turkic Muslim Uighers seeking independence from China. The Taliban was plotting attacks inside Afghanistan as well as aiding the East Turkestan Islamic Movement operating along the border with China and Tajikistan. Jowzjan police chief Faqir Mohammad Jowzjani said that a Chinese and three Uzbek militants were killed in the joint air strikes in Darzab district of Jowzjan Province.

February 9: The Taliban claimed that it attacked three checkpoints in Helmand Province, killing 15 local forces. District police chief Amanullah said six local police were killed and eight wounded in the nighttime raid in Nawa district.

Gunmen killed district judge Mawlawi Baz Mohammad, forcing him from his vehicle as he was en route from Ghor Province to Herat, and shooting him in Shandand district in Herat Province. No one claimed credit.

February 10: During the night, the Taliban attacked a checkpoint belonging to a pro-government militia in Gareshk district in Helmand Province, killing 16 militiamen. Taliban spokesman Qari Yusouf Ahmadi said that two Taliban fighters escaped with all the ammunition from pro-government fighters.

February 14: *Radio Free Europe* and AP reported that the Taliban released a 17,000-word letter to the “American people, officials of independent non-governmental organizations, and the peace-loving Congressmen” to call on the government to leave the country and end the war which cost “trillions of dollars.” The Taliban offered direct talks with the U.S. and promised a more inclusive regime, education and rights for all, including women, but apparently rejected power-sharing. The Taliban denounced President Trump’s strategy announced in August 2017 that called for military force to bring the Taliban to negotiations. The letter noted, “Prolonging the war in Afghanistan and maintaining American troop presence is neither beneficial for America nor for anyone else.” The audience should “read this letter prudently.” “Stubbornly seeking the protraction of this war will have dreadful consequences” for the region and the “stability of America herself.” “As confirmed by your own military authorities, 3,546 American and foreign soldiers have been killed, more than 20,000 American forces injured and tens of thousands more are suffering mentally.” “You proclaim to be a developed and civilized nation.... We leave it to your judgment to decide” whether the prevailing conditions of “insecurity, chaos” and soaring drug problems are “reforms or crimes against humanity.”

In a nighttime attack on a police post in Bala Buluk district, the Taliban killed seven policemen

in an hours-long clash that killed three gunmen in Farah Province.

Also during the night, the Taliban killed three policemen in Qaysar district in Faryab Province. Ten Taliban died in the ensuing gun battle.

February 15: A land mine explosion in Herat Province killed two children of a local Taliban figure.

February 17: A Taliban suicide car bomber attacked a British security company in Kabul, killing two civilians and wounding three others. 18021701

February 20: A bomb exploded around noon in a hotel room in Jalalabad in Nangarhar Province, killing three tribal elders about to discuss village problems. Three other elders were wounded. Police discovered and defused a second bomb near the hotel.

Taliban attacks on police checkpoints killed eight policemen in Farah Province. Two police checkpoints were hit during the night, one in Bala Buluk district and one near Farah city. Some 13 gunmen were killed in fighting that extended from the night until the early morning.

Two gunmen killed a police officer in Mohmood Razi in Kapisa Province. Both gunmen were killed. Police arrested five suspects. No one claimed credit.

February 21: The Taliban attacked a police security post in Ghazni Province from four sides, killing eight local police. The gunmen used heavy weapons, including artillery, in the two-hour attack. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said nine local police were killed and one other captured.

February 24: The Taliban killed more than 20 security forces in a series of attacks in various parts of Afghanistan, including Kabul.

A pedestrian suicide bomber set off explosives attached to his body outside an intelligence agency office near the headquarters of NATO-led troops in Kabul, killing three Afghans, including two intelligence officers, and wounding six. An intelligence officer threw his arms around the bomber before he could reach an area further up from the site of the blast, where there were numerous officials and civilians.

Two suicide car bombers attacked Afghan security forces in two different parts of Helmand Province, killing four policemen. The Taliban took credit.

The Taliban massacred 18 troops during the night in their camps in the Bala Boluk district of Farah Province.

Gunmen fired on the vehicle of former lawmaker Rafi Gul Afghan, killing him and his bodyguard in Kabul's Khair Khana neighborhood during the night. The attackers escaped. He had served as deputy speaker for the upper house of Afghanistan's parliament and most recently was an adviser to

Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah. No one claimed credit.

February 27: During the night, gunmen attacked a police checkpoint, killing six police and wounding five others at the border between Kandahar and Uruzgan Provinces.

In a separate nighttime attack, gunmen wearing army uniforms stopped a bus and kidnapped 30 people, including 19 policemen, at the border between Kandahar and Uruzgan Provinces. The Taliban announced on March 2, 2018, that it had released five of the 19 people they claimed to have kidnapped.

The Taliban was suspected in both incidents.

February 28: Afghan Defense Ministry spokesman Dawlat Waziri said on March 1, 2018, that earlier in the week, special forces captured a foreign fighter claiming to be German, along with two other Taliban fighters, during a nighttime raid on the Taliban in Helmand Province's Gereshk district. Soldiers confiscated Kalashnikov automatic rifles and several grenades. The suspected German had a long beard and wore a black turban. He did not speak Dari or Pashto.

March 2: A vehicle bomb targeting a NATO military convoy on a major highway outside Kabul killed one civilian and wounded four others, but did not damage its target. Several nearby buildings were damaged. No group claimed credit. 18030202

In the morning, a suicide car bombing in eastern Kabul's Qabil Bay neighborhood killed a young girl and wounded 22 people, including five children and two women. Interior Ministry spokesman Najib Danish, spokesman for the Interior Ministry, said the suicide bomber targeted a "convoy of foreigners," although no foreign casualties were reported. 18030203

March 7: A suicide bomber on foot killed three people, including Abdul Zahir Haqqani, the local head of the Ministry of Haj and Religious Affairs, and wounded 16 during the afternoon in Jalalabad in Nangarhar Province. The terrorist set off his suicide vest in front of Haqqani's vehicle.

The Taliban claimed credit for a nighttime attack on a Spin Boldak district police headquarters in Kandahar Province that killed one police officer and wounded five. A bomber set off an explosive at the entrance gate; three gunmen then fired at guards. All four attackers were killed. Taliban spokesman Qari Yousaf Ahmadi said more than 15 police were killed.

AP and *al-Jazeera* reported that two Pakistani intelligence officials and three local Taliban commanders said a U.S. drone fired two missiles at a Taliban compound in Kunar Province, killing 21 terrorists, including the son of Mullah Fazlullah, the head of the Pakistani Taliban. Six fighters were

wounded. *Dawn* reported that prominent TTP commander Gul Muhammad and fidayeen trainer Yaseen were also killed. Fazlullah was not at the facility.

March 8: The Taliban killed four policemen and injured five officers in a nighttime attack on a police security post in Ghazni Province.

March 9: An ISIS-K suicide bomber on foot hit outside a mosque serving southwest Kabul's Shi'ite Hazara community, killing ten people, mostly civilians commemorating the 1995 death of Abdul Ali Mazari, a Hazara militia leader who was killed by the Taliban. Security forces stopped the man at a checkpoint, where he detonated his explosives, killing ten, including one police officer, and injuring 22 others.

In overnight clashes in Takhar Province, the Taliban killed ten police officers in Khawja Ghar district, while eight soldiers died in a separate attack. Six more Afghan security forces died in other attacks.

March 10: The Taliban killed seven army commanders and eight police in an attack in the Bala Buluk district of Farah Province. Three other security forces were reported missing. The government claimed that more than 30 Taliban were killed.

March 11: In a nighttime attack, terrorists threw a grenade at a vehicle, killing seven civilians, including three children and two women, and wounding two other people in Bati Kot district in Nangarhar Province. The victims belonged to the same family.

March 12: The Taliban attacked district police and administrative headquarters in Anardara in Farah Province, killing eight policemen and wounding ten security forces in a morning clash. They held the facility for a few hours before Afghan reinforcements arrived.

March 14: *AFP* reported that Taliban gunmen kidnapped Awal Khan, 36, and a local police officer as they were driving in Paktika Province. The officer was killed. The next day, Khan, while handcuffed, stole a gun while his captors were saying afternoon prayers at their hideout in Gomal district, killed seven of them and wounded 18 others. Awal then escaped in the gunmen's pickup truck.

March 16: The body of a U.N. driver who was abducted with a female U.N. employee and her child was found early in the morning in Kabul, in the same location where the three Afghans were kidnapped two months earlier. The location of the other two hostages remained unknown. No group claimed credit, and the Taliban said it was not involved in the "criminal act." 18019901

A rocket hit a civilian house near a police checkpoint in the Nad Ali district of Helmand Province,

killing one person and wounding ten children. The government blamed the Taliban. No group claimed credit.

March 17: A sticky bomb attached to a motorcycle driven by a retired Pakistani army officer exploded in Zabul Province's Shahjoy district, killing the officer and his guard. A government official charged that the retired officer was aiding the Taliban. 18031701

A bomb killed two children and wounded nine in Khost Province.

The Taliban attacked security positions in Ghazni Province, killing five police in a two-hour gun battle.

The Taliban planted a roadside bomb that killed a young shepherd and wounded five others in Ghor Province.

March 18: A terrorist wearing a school uniform snuck past two guards and detonated a grenade in a classroom containing hundreds of university students in science and math in a Hazara neighborhood in Kabul, killing himself and wounding six students. The terrorist's explosive vest failed to explode. No group claimed credit; ISIS-K was suspected.

March 19: Bombs attached to motorcycles killed four. One went off outside a sports stadium in Jalalabad in Nangarhar Province, where former warlord Gulbuddin Hekmatyar was holding a rally, killing three people and injuring ten. ISIS-K claimed credit.

Another motorcycle bomb exploded in Herat Province, killing one person and wounding seven. No group claimed credit.

March 21: *AP* and *BBC* reported that an ISIS-K suicide bomber mingling with crowds after sneaking past checkpoints set off his bomb on the road to the Shi'ite Sakhi Shrine in front of Kabul University and the Ali Abad government hospital, killing 33 people and injuring 65. ISIS-K said it attacked "a gathering of Shi'ites celebrating Nowruz," the Persian new year and a national holiday. The Taliban denied involvement.

The Sakhi shrine was attacked by ISIS-K gunmen wearing Afghan security uniforms in October 2016. During the attack, 17 people were killed and 62 were wounded during the Shi'ite mourning day of Ashura. *BBC* added that a bombing in 2011 killed 59.

March 23: A bomb exploded outside a packed sports stadium in Lashkar Gah, Helmand Province, where hundreds were watching a wrestling match. At least 20 people were killed and more than 40 others injured. A car bomb was suspected.

March 24: A sticky bomb exploded in the Chaman-e-Hozoori area in the 8th police district of Kabul, killing one person and wounding 13 others near a

tent set up by members of the Afghan civil society in support of Pashtuns against atrocities in Pakistan. No one claimed credit.

March 25: Two ISIS-K suicide bombers tried to enter a Shi'ite mosque in Herat Province. Guards shot one to death while the other detonated his explosives, killing one person and wounding seven others.

March 28: Gunmen fired at an afternoon funeral for a soldier in Nangarhar Province, killing two people, including Matiullah Safi, district police chief for Khewa district, and injuring four civilians. No one claimed credit.

March 30: The *South China Morning Post* reported that two Chinese militants were killed in an operation by Afghan military forces in Badakhshan Province. Seven people died and 13 were injured in the fighting during Operation Koktcha-18. The area is near the border with China, according to *Pajhwok Afghan News*. The Afghan National Army's 209th Shaheen Corps confirmed the casualties, saying one of those killed was a man named Mustafa, who was the deputy leader of a Chinese militant group.

A suicide bomber killed Kunar provincial council member Shahwali Hemat as he was en route to a local cemetery to attend a funeral. A suicide bomber walked up to him and set off his explosives, killing Hemat and a second person and injuring another. No one took credit.

During a daylong gun battle in Badakhshan Province's Jurm district, the Taliban killed four civilians and wounded eight.

April 2: Dr. Nisar Ahmad Barak said 48 schoolgirls were sickened at a high school in Helmand Province in what authorities suspected was a group poisoning. The girls went to his hospital in Lashkar Gah, suffering headaches and vomiting. The girls were from 11th grade at the city's Central Girls School.

April 6: NATO announced that a U.S. airstrike in Faryab Province killed senior ISIS-K commander Qari Hikmatullah, a former leader of the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, and one of his bodyguards. Hikmatullah, a native Uzbek, earlier fought with the Taliban before joining ISIS-K. The group named Mawlawi Habibul Rahman, another Uzbek, to succeed him.

April 11: A district governor reported that a sticky bomb destroyed an oil tanker outside the Bagram military base in Parwan Province. The driver was wounded. There were no injuries at the heavily fortified base.

April 12: At 2 a.m., the Taliban attacked a government compound in the Khuja Omari district in Ghazni Province, sparking an hours-long gunbattle that killed 15, including district governor Ali Dost

Shams, intelligence service director and a deputy police official. The Taliban planted mines to prevent government reinforcements from coming to help. Ramazan Ali Moseni, deputy police chief in Ghazni Province, said seven police officers were killed, as were five members of the country's NDS intelligence agency. Moseni also said 45 Taliban were killed and eight members of the Afghan security forces were wounded.

April 12–13: Overnight attacks by the Taliban killed 13 policemen and wounded several others.

An hours-long battle in Herat Province's Shindand district killed ten policemen and injured four. District Governor Shukrullah Shaker said a roadside mine and a rocket hit a car carrying police reinforcements sent to the scene, killing the police commander. Several Taliban died.

During the night, the Taliban attacked police posts in Gardez, Paktia Province, killing three policemen. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed credit.

April 13: During the night, a rocket hit a house in Nadi Ali district of Helmand Province, killing four young children and wounding another child.

Gunmen attacked a checkpoint near Farah during the night, killing two police officers and wounding two other policemen.

April 14: The Taliban was blamed when gunmen attacked a checkpoint in Sari Pul Province, killing eleven Afghan paramilitary forces and injuring two. Three Taliban, including a local commander, were killed and four others wounded during the nighttime attack on the Local Uprising Forces pro-government militia.

The Taliban attacked two security checkpoints in Ghazni Province, killing four police and wounding five others. The Taliban shot at the checkpoints and then attacked reinforcements with a roadside bomb. The Taliban claimed they captured weapons and ammunition.

April 18: A Taliban sticky bomb was placed on the vehicle of Colonel Janan Mama, commander of the border raid reaction force in Kandahar. The explosion killed five people, including Mama, three of his police bodyguards and a civilian.

April 19: During the night, a gunman killed two police officers at a registration center in Jalalabad in Nangarhar Province and stole their weapons.

April 20: A roadside bomb hit a vehicle in the Aska Mina district of Nangarhar Province, killing five people and wounding 14 civilians, including women and children. The government blamed the Taliban.

Gunman fired five rockets on a voter registration center in the provincial capital Qalay-i-Now in Badghis Province, killing a police officer and wounding two others. No one claimed credit.

During the night, the Taliban overran a police checkpoint in Sari Pul Province's Sayad district, killing six police officers and wounding two. During the hours-long gun battle, three Taliban died and two were wounded. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid took credit.

April 22: An ISIS-K suicide bomber killed 60 people, including 22 women and eight children, and injured 130, including 52 women and 17 children, waiting at the entrance of an office issuing national identity cards in Kabul's Shi'ite-dominated Dashte Barchi area. Among the casualties were women and children. ISIS-K said it targeted "apostates." The Taliban denied involvement.

Five people were killed and four wounded when their vehicle struck a roadside bomb in Puli Khomri, capital of Baghlan Province. The Taliban was suspected.

The government blamed ISIS-K when gunmen in Nangarhar Province's Chaparhar district killed three university students—all brothers.

April 23: The Taliban attacked army units in Ab Kamari district in Badghis Province, killing nine soldiers.

The Taliban attacked police in Badghis Province's Qadis district, killing five policemen. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed credit.

The Taliban attacked policemen in Bala Buluk district of Farah Province, killing four policemen and wounding three. Three Taliban died and two others were wounded in the two-hour gun battle.

The *Long War Journal* reported on May 16, 2018, that on April 23, a U.S. airstrike in Sherzad district in Nangarhar Province killed AQIS commander Hazrat Abbas and his bodyguard. Abbas was also a senior commander for the Pakistani Taliban (TTP).

April 24: In the early morning, gunmen attacked a local police security post in Ghazni Province's Jaghatu district, killing four local police officers and wounding several. The Taliban used artillery and rocket-propelled grenade launchers.

The Taliban attacked a military checkpoint in the Bala Buluk district in Farah Province, killing five soldiers and wounding two soldiers. During the several-hour gun battle, six Taliban were killed and three others injured. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said the Taliban took two Afghan soldiers captive.

Gunmen attacked checkpoints in Qadis district in Badghis Province, killing two policemen and capturing six soldiers. The government blamed the Taliban.

During the night, gunmen attacked a checkpoint in Kabul, killing three Afghan police. No one claimed credit.

April 25: The Taliban announced the start of its annual spring offensive. The "al-Khandaq" offensive

would introduce "new and intricate tactics" aimed at "crushing, killing and capturing American invaders and their supporters."

Gunmen killed three police at a checkpoint in Baghdis Province.

Two gunmen shot to death local TV journalist Abdul Manan Arghand as he drove to work in Kandahar Province.

Reuters reported that two evening rush hour explosions in Kabul injured three people. Security personnel said an attacker threw a hand grenade at a police checkpoint then ran away. The public health ministry said two magnetic bombs and a domestic gas bottle had blown up.

During the night, the Taliban was blamed when gunmen attacked an Afghan army security post in the Dashti Archi district of Kunduz Province, killing seven soldiers and wounding one during a several-hour skirmish that also killed 15 Taliban fighters and wounded 13. Local hospital chief Rahimbakesh Danish Karimi said bodies of 13 soldiers and nine wounded were brought to his hospital in Thakhar Province.

April 26: The Taliban ambushed an Afghan government convoy in Logar Province, killing deputy provincial governor Kamaruddin Shekeib and his two bodyguards and seriously wounding his spokesman. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed credit.

April 28: An ISIS-K bomb in Jalalabad wounded twelve people, including two traffic police.

April 29: A group of children set off an unexploded mortar round in a residential area in Nangarhar Province, killing a woman and two children and wounding seven children. Insurgents had fired the mortar round the previous night.

An explosives-laden rickshaw blew up near a mosque and registration center in Jalalabad, wounding a policeman and six civilians. No one immediately claimed credit.

April 30: The *Washington Post* reported that two suicide bombs went off in Kabul, killing 25, including nine journalists and four police officers, and wounding 45, including six journalists, in the Shash Darak area, a high-security zone which houses the U.S. and other embassies, NATO headquarters and Afghan government offices. It was the deadliest attack against Afghan journalists since 9/11. The first suicide vest was set off by a motorcyclist, killing five and wounding four. Twenty minutes later, a second terrorist carrying a press pass and camera and mingling with journalists set off a more powerful bomb as news photographers and crews ran to the scene.

The dead included:

- Shah Marai, *Agence France-Presse* chief photographer in Kabul

- Nawroz Ali Rajabi, a reporter for the *TV One* news channel
- A cameraman for *Tolo TV*
- Two reporters for the Afghan branch of *Radio Free Europe* and a third who was to begin working there soon
- Journalists for local TV stations.

ISIS-K said online that two of its “martyrs” carried out an attack on the Afghan intelligence services in Kabul. 18043001

A tenth reporter, Ahmad Shah, 29, from *BBC’s* Afghan service, was shot to death in a separate attack in Khost Province. He had worked for the Afghan service for more than a year.

A car bomb hit a convoy of Romanian “Carpathian Eagles” troops near a religious school in Daman district in Kandahar Province, killing eleven children and wounding 16 people, including eight Romanian troops, Afghan civilians and Afghan Uniform Police officers. 18043002

CNN and *Military Times* reported that U.S. Army Spec. Gabriel D. Conde, 22, and several members of Afghan security forces were killed and a U.S. service member was wounded in Kapisa Province’s Tagab district in eastern Afghanistan during a combat operation. Conde was an airborne-qualified infantryman with the 25th Infantry Division’s 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, and had been in Afghanistan since September 2017 on his first deployment from Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Alaska. He joined the Army in 2015 in Loveland, Colorado. He was part of Operation Freedom’s Sentinel, in which the U.S. military targets terrorist groups in Afghanistan. 18043003

May 3: A gunman shot to death Abdul Jalal, a deputy counterterrorism official, as he was driving to his home in Farah Province. No one claimed credit.

May 5: In the evening, suicide bombers attacked the home of General Abdul Raziq, provincial police chief, in the Spin Boldak district of Kandahar, killing two border policemen in a gun battle that killed two other attackers and wounded a policeman. Raziq was not home at the time. The Taliban was suspected.

A car bomb went off during the night, killing two people and wounding three, including district chief Hazart Mohammad Rodwal, in Paktia Province.

May 6: *NPR* and *AP* reported that a bomb went off in a mosque being used as a voter registration facility in Khost, killing 14 and wounding 33. No one claimed credit.

A vehicle carrying shopkeepers to a market hit a roadside bomb in Faryab Province, killing seven and wounding one civilian.

Gunmen kidnapped seven Indian electrical engineers and their Afghan driver as they were travel-

ing to a power station near the provincial capital of Puli Khumri in Baghlan Province. The Taliban was suspected. 18050601

During the night, the Taliban attacked a police patrol in Marouf district in Kandahar Province, killing five police officers and wounding nine police. Fifteen Taliban were killed and eleven injured in the gun battle.

May 9: *Reuters* reported that gunmen set off three bombs in Kabul and then conducted a gunfight from buildings they occupied. One person died and five were wounded. The government blamed the Haqqani Network. Public Health Ministry spokesman Wahid Majroh and Interior Minister Wais Ahmad Barmak said eight suicide bombers attacked two police stations in Kabul, killing seven people and injuring 17. ISIS-K claimed one bombing; the Taliban another.

The first bomb went off at mid-day at a police station in western Kabul’s Dasht-e-Barchi district. The attackers threw hand grenades and blew themselves up, setting the police station on fire. Police shot to death a third suicide bomber. Two police were killed in the attack and two police and a civilian were wounded. ISIS-K claimed credit.

Minutes later, two bombs went off in Shar-e Naw, the city’s main business district, near the office of a travel agency that processes visa applications for India, injuring several security guards. A suicide bomber hit the entrance to a police station; another four bombers ran inside through the hole. Two or three other attackers hid in a neighboring building, shooting at authorities for seven hours. The Taliban claimed credit.

The Taliban attacked a school being used as a voter registration center in Badghis Province, killing eight soldiers and wounding two. Another soldier was missing.

Gunmen fired a rocket into a market in Nangarhar Province, killing two people and wounding 19. In a gun battle in the same district, four civilians and two gunmen were killed and 15 civilians and seven gunmen were wounded.

May 10: During the night, the Taliban conducted a several-hour attack on a security post in Bala Buluk district in Farah Province, killing seven security forces and wounding four. Provincial Council member Abdul Samad Salehi said the attack killed 22 and wounded two and that the Taliban “arrested” three security forces.

May 13: Gunmen attacked a provincial finance directorate government building in Jalalabad, Nangarhar Province. Two terrorists set off a suicide car bomb outside. Six terrorists then ran through the hole in the building, shooting at security officials in a five-hour gun battle in which ten people died and 42 were injured. Security forces rescued 50 employ-

ees. ISIS-K claimed credit, saying four terrorists were involved. Attahullah Khogyani, spokesman for the governor of Nangarhar Province, said eight attackers were involved.

May 15: The Taliban overran several security checkpoints in Farah during the morning, killing six security forces and wounding a dozen, including the deputy provincial police chief.

May 17: During the night, the Taliban attacked a security post in the Ajristan district of Ghani Province, killing nine security forces and wounding seven others. In the clash, 25 Taliban died.

Taliban insurgents attacked police security posts in the Maruf district of Kandahar Province, killing five police and wounding six. A dozen Taliban were killed and 18 wounded.

During the night, the Taliban killed two police in Uruzgan Province.

May 19: Three bombs exploded near-simultaneously at a nighttime cricket match at the sports stadium in Jalalabad, Nangarhar Province, killing eight people, including the deputy provincial mayor of neighboring Laghman Province and the main organizer of the tournament, and wounding 45. No one claimed credit.

May 20: During the night, the Taliban burned down 50 shops in the Khuaja Sabz Posh district of Faryab Province during an attack on a district headquarters. Six insurgents were killed and ten were wounded.

May 21: In the morning, the Taliban killed five members of a TAPI demining team clearing a segment for a planned gas pipeline in the Maiwand district of Kandahar Province. A sixth worker was missing.

Several Taliban nighttime attacks in Ghazni Province killed 14 police, including a district police chief and a reserve unit's commander.

The Taliban attacked a checkpoint in Paktia Province, killing two police and injuring three other police officers during the night.

May 22: Sixteen people, including four security officers, were killed and 38 people, including six security forces and five small children, were injured in Kandahar when a container full of explosives went off accidentally while bomb techs were trying to defuse it. Among the injured was Abdul Saleh, 29. The explosives were found amidst car repair shops.

The Taliban stormed several checkpoints in the Dih Yak and Jaghatu districts.

May 22: During the evening, the Taliban killed three people, including a tribal leader, in an attack on a district police headquarters in Ghor Province.

May 23: Gunmen attacked a checkpoint in Badghis Province, killing two police and wounding four others. Another four police were missing.

May 24: In the morning, the Taliban attacked a military outpost in Shirin Tagab district in Faryab Province, killing three soldiers and wounding six. Government forces fired back, killing five gunmen and wounding seven.

An artillery rocket system hit a Taliban meeting in the Musa Qala district of Helmand Province, killing more than 50 senior Taliban commanders from a number of Afghan provinces attending a planning session related to the annual spring offensive.

May 27: A Taliban suicide car bomber hit Afghan troops outside an army base in the Nad Ali district of Helmand Province, killing two and wounding four soldiers. A district official announced a tally of 17 soldiers killed and 21 wounded.

The head of security for a bank branch in Uruzgan Province opened fire inside the bank, killing four people and wounding two. He was arrested.

The *Voice of America* reported that an artillery shell left over from a battle between the government and the Taliban exploded in Nangarhar Province, killing or wounding eleven members of a family, most of them children. The ordnance reportedly had been left behind unexploded after a fierce firefight between Afghan security forces and Taliban militants in the area. The family claimed neither the Afghan government nor the international community offered them any assistance.

During the night, gunmen killed an employee of a voter registration center and two policemen and wounded a third policeman in Herat Province. No one claimed credit.

May 28: The Taliban attacked several villages in Khoja Ghor district in Takhar Province, causing no casualties.

Late in the night, Afghan forces mistakenly killed nine people, most of them civilians but including a local police commander, and wounded eight civilians during a raid on a house in Chaparhar district in Nangarhar Province which had been a base for ISIS-K and other militants.

A bomb attached to a bicycle killed a policeman and a civilian and injured three policemen and a civilian in the Qarabagh district in Kabul Province. No one claimed credit.

May 29: A sticky bomb attached to a car killed its owner, provincial hospital director Akramuddin Wakilzada, and wounded his driver in Aybak, capital of Samangan Province. He was seen as a possible candidate in upcoming parliamentary elections. No one claimed credit.

May 30: A suicide car bomber killed three police

officials, including the commander of the police station and the deputy director of traffic police for Puli Alim, and wounded four policemen and eight civilians, including two children, in a morning attack on a police station in Logar Province. A suicide car bomb exploded. Three other suicide bombers tried to enter the facility, but were shot and killed by guards within minutes. Several homes were damaged.

At noon, eight gunmen wearing military uniforms, including some in U.S. uniforms, and suicide vests and driving an SUV attacked the Interior Ministry compound, killing a police officer and injuring five others during a battle that lasted more than two hours. Seweeta Saberi, 17, an Afghan girl, was treated at the Qazir Akbar Khan hospital. The attack began when a car bomb went off outside the compound, allowing the other attackers to get inside the headquarters of the national police forces. Authorities said the attackers were either shot dead by police or died when they set off their explosives. ISIS-K claimed credit for the "immersion attack."

The Taliban attacked a district headquarters in Takhar Province, killing five security forces and wounding three. Ten Taliban died.

A roadside bomb killed three people and wounded 13 in Kandahar. Victims included mechanics who had been contracted to repair Afghan army vehicles. No one claimed credit.

May 31: Commando units freed 103 people, including five women and two children, held in two Taliban prisons in an early morning operation in Helmand Province's Kajaki district. Four Taliban died.

A suicide car bomber wounded six people, including three policemen, when police tried to stop a suspicious vehicle outside the governor's compound in a morning attack in Girishk district in Helmand Province.

June 4: A suicide bomber killed seven people (other reports said 14), including seven clerics, and injured 20 people, in Kabul's 5th District near the main entrance of a large tented Loya Jirga compound outside a gathering of 2,000 Muslim clerics constituting the Afghan Ulema Council that had condemned suicide attacks as "haram," or contrary to Islamic teachings, and declared the insurgency in Afghanistan as being without religious basis. The next day, ISIS-K claimed credit. The Council's fatwa said the ongoing war was "illegal according to Islamic laws and it does nothing but shed the blood of Muslims.... We the religious Ulema call on the Taliban to respond positively to the peace offer of the Afghan government in order to prevent further bloodshed in the country." It noted that killing people by any means, including suicide attacks as well as armed robbery and kidnapping, are sins in Islam.

ISIS-K deemed the gathering a meeting of "tyrant clerics." The Taliban denied involvement.

June 5: During the night, the Taliban attacked an army post in Badghis Province, sparking a two-hour gun battle in which they killed six soldiers, wounded seven, and stole ammunition and two army vehicles. No one immediately claimed responsibility.

A roadside bomb killed a civilian and wounded three others in Baghlan Province.

June 8: A remotely detonated bomb attached to a motorcycle killed cleric Mohammad Younose Shamakhil and three others and wounded twelve people in Mihtarlam, capital of Laghman Province, as the cleric was returning home from Friday prayers at a mosque. No one immediately claimed credit.

Two suicide bombers targeted the Jalalabad home of Feridon Momand, a member of parliament, in Nangarhar Province, killing a police officer, a woman and her husband in the building. Five others were wounded. The target was not at home at the time. Police killed one suicide bomber and arrested the second. Momand said he owns the building, which is used by the Momand tribal council. ISIS-K claimed credit.

The Taliban targeted a mosque in Herat Province, killing a father and his son and wounding four others during prayers.

June 9: The Taliban announced a three-day cease-fire over the Eid al-Fitr holiday at the end of the holy month of Ramadan (June 12). Two days earlier, Afghan President Ashraf Ghani announced a week-long cease-fire.

Earlier in the day, the Taliban attacked a military checkpoint in Zawal district in Herat Province, killing 17 soldiers and wounding one. Eight Taliban were killed and more than a dozen wounded.

The Taliban attacked a police checkpoint in Qala-e Zal district in Kunduz Province, killing 13 local policemen and wounding seven. Ten gunmen died and nine others were wounded.

An ISIS-K sticky bomb killed Ghulam Mohiadin, a district level official for the education department who planned to run for a district council seat, when the device destroyed his car in Nangarhar Province.

In the nighttime, the Taliban attacked a checkpoint in Kandahar Province, killing five security forces and wounding three security forces.

June 11: NPR reported that a suicide bomber on foot killed 13 people and wounded 31 outside the Rural Rehabilitation and Development Ministry in Kabul as employees were leaving work. ISIS-K claimed credit.

A suicide bomber hit the education department of Jalalabad, wounding ten civilians. Security forces killed three other suicide bombers who tried to

enter the building. Police found a vehicle filled with explosives nearby.

A sticky bomb exploded at a market in Chaparhar District in Nangarhar Province, wounding 14 civilians.

A roadside bomb hit a microbus in Ghazni Province, killing six people, including women and children, and wounding three people. The government blamed the Taliban.

Gun battles in Ghazni Province killed three local police and ten Taliban.

The Taliban attacked a joint army and police checkpoint in Kunduz Province, killing 15 Afghan security forces.

During the night, the Taliban took control of a district headquarters in Faryab Province, killing Kohistan district governor Abdul Rahman Falah and eight security forces. Thirteen Taliban died and nine were wounded.

June 12: A suicide bomber detonated a military Humvee in Muqar district in Ghazni Province, killing five policemen and injuring 26 people, including a district governor and 18 police. The Taliban had earlier taken the Humvee from Afghan forces.

The Taliban overran an army base in Sayyad district in Sari Pul Province, killing five soldiers and wounding eight troops. Another three were missing.

June 14: In the morning, terrorists burned down a clinic in Kamdesh district in Nuristan Province that was providing medical facilities for more than 2,000 people. Gunmen took seven staff members hostage, later freeing five of them and later the remaining two doctors.

Afghan Defense Ministry spokesman Mohammad Radmanish said that a morning U.S. drone strike in Marawara district in Kunar Province killed Pakistani Taliban chief Mullah Fazlullah, who ordered the assassination of Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai, and two other terrorists. U.S. Forces-Afghanistan spokesman Lt. Col Martin O'Donnell said that the U.S. carried out a "counterterrorism strike" in the border region between Afghanistan and Pakistan against "a senior leader of a designated terrorist organization."

June 16: Nangarhar provincial Police Chief Ghulam Sanayee Stanikzai said that a suicide bomber hit a group of unarmed Taliban fighters celebrating Eid al-Fitr in the Rodat district of Nangarhar Province, killing 21 people and wounding another 41, most of them believed to be Taliban fighters. ISIS-K was suspected.

A suicide bomber in Jalalabad killed 36 people and wounded 65 at a gathering of Taliban fighters who were celebrating a three-day truce coinciding with the Eid al-Fitr holiday, according to Kamawal,

director of the provincial health department. ISIS-K claimed credit.

June 17: A suicide bomber hit a group of people leaving the governor's compound in Jalalabad, killing 19 and wounding 60. Authorities believed the attacker was targeting Taliban, security forces and civilians celebrating a cease fire. ISIS-K was suspected.

June 20: The Taliban was suspected when gunmen killed at least 30 soldiers and captured a military base in Badghis.

June 22: *Reuters* and *AP* reported that Abdul Aziz Beg, head of the Badghis Provincial Council, said that in a morning ambush, the Taliban killed 16 militia loyal to the government in Badghis Province. The militiamen had arrived to help local police, who had been attacked by Taliban insurgents in the Ab Kamari district.

The Taliban attacked a private Afghan road construction company in Spin Boldak in Kandahar Province, kidnapping 13 engineers and 20 security guards, all Afghan nationals, killing four border police, and wounding one.

Government official Mohammad Naser Nazari said the Taliban planted a bomb on the body of a soldier that exploded when people attempted to retrieve the bodies, killing two civilians.

June 24: The *Long War Journal* reported that the Taliban captured more than 70 Afghan policemen and took over a number of outposts in Jalrez district in Wardak Province. The Taliban announced it had "seized control [of] 13 posts and 1 base from the enemy" and "dozens of the enemy suffered casualties" and "72 surrendered themselves to Mujahideen after putting up a small resistance." *Deutsche Welle* reported that Wardak's Provincial Council said more than 80 members of the Public Order Police were captured. The Taliban claimed on "Voice of Jihad" that it launched attacks in 15 provinces (Baghlan, Daykuni, Ghazni, Helmand, Jawzjan, Kabul, Kapisa, Kunar, Kunduz, Logar, Nangarhar, Paktia, Paktika, Uruzgan, and Wardak).

June 25: The Taliban was suspected when a suicide bomber entered a base in Kunar Province, killing eight police and wounding four other police.

June 28: Terrorists in two provinces killed 29 people. A bomb went off at a meeting in Logar Province between the Taliban and village elders urging them to enter peace talks, killing 13 elders and an unknown number of Taliban. No one claimed credit, but ISIS-K was suspected.

The Taliban attacked a security post in Takhar Province, killing 16 border police.

June 30: During the night, ISIS-K killed three night watchmen outside a school and beheaded two of them before torching the building.

July 1: A suicide bomber killed 19 people, including Sikhs and Hindus on their way to the governor's compound, and wounded 20 others in Jalalabad in Nangarhar Province. They had planned to meet with President Ashraf Ghani. ISIS-K claimed credit, saying it was attacking "polytheists." Among those killed was longtime Sikh community leader Avtar Singh Khalsa, a longtime leader of the Sikh community.

July 2: Shah Poor Ahmadzai, spokesman for the province's police chief, said that a suicide car bombing that targeted a NATO convoy killed a woman and a child and wounded three other women in Logar Province. NATO armored tanks were damaged in the blast. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed responsibility and said five U.S. soldiers were killed. 18070201

July 3: Defense Ministry spokesman Mohammad Radmanish said that a suspected U.S. drone strike in Kunar Province in the morning killed a senior Pakistan Taliban commander and his two bodyguards.

July 5: A bomb killed four Taliban, including a senior leader, in Nangarhar Province. No one claimed credit.

During the night, the Taliban attacked security posts in Ghazni city, killing two national police and wounding four others.

July 6: Arif Noori, spokesman for the governor of Ghazni Province, said two roadside mines possibly meant for later use against security forces exploded in a residential area in the remote Gilan district, killing three children and wounding seven others. No one claimed credit.

July 7: Abdul Hai Khateby, the provincial governor's spokesman, said that district chief Mirza Mohammad Ibrahim was killed by a roadside bomb in Charsada district in Ghor Province. Khateby blamed the Taliban.

In the morning, the Taliban was suspected when gunmen ambushed a police convoy in Ghazni Province, killing four police, including a police special forces commander, and wounding six others. Six gunmen died and seven others were wounded in the gun battle in Waghez district. No one claimed credit.

U.S. Army Corporal Joseph Maciel, of South Gate, California, was killed and two other U.S. service members were wounded in an apparent insider attack at Tarin Kowt airfield in Uruzgan Province. Taliban spokesman Qari Yusuf Ahmadi said that the shooting was carried out by a member of the Afghan security force who acted alone, but that the group "appreciated" his attack. Maciel, a member of the Army 3rd Infantry Division's 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, was deployed in February 2018

with the 1st Security Force Assistance Brigade. 18070701

July 9: During the night, the Taliban attacked police checkpoints in Bala Buluk district in Farah Province, killing three police and wounding four police. In the ensuing gun battle, five Taliban were killed and seven wounded.

July 10: A suicide bomber on foot set off his explosives at a gas station near a checkpoint outside Jalalabad, killing a dozen people, including two intelligence officers and eight civilians, among them several children who were working in a car wash, and wounding four people. ISIS-K said "a martyrdom attack using an explosives jacket hit a gathering of Afghan intelligence."

The Taliban attacked civil servants in Ghazni Province, killing several people, including a district chief.

July 11: Nangarhar provincial police chief General Ghulam Sanayee Stanekzai said two suicide bombers attacked an education department building in Jalalabad, capital of Nangarhar Province, killing eleven people and wounding eight. One terrorist set off his explosives vest; authorities shot to death the second terrorist. ISIS-K was suspected of the morning attack in which several dozen officials and visitors were trapped for hours during a gun battle.

A roadside bomb hit a vehicle in Khak-e Safad district in Farah Province, killing five civilians, including two women and a small child, and wounding for other people. No one claimed responsibility but the Taliban was suspected.

July 12: The Taliban fired artillery shells at a military security post in Dasht-e-Arch district in Kunduz Province, killing 15 soldiers and wounding 13 soldiers in a four-hour-long gun battle. Six Taliban died. Mohammad Yusuf Ayubi, head of the provincial council, suggested that 30 soldiers were killed. The Taliban blew up a booby-trapped bridge leading to the site to prevent military reinforcements from reaching the scene.

The Taliban killed four policemen at a police checkpoint in Farah Province.

July 13: Gunmen attacked a checkpoint in Bala Buluk district in Farah Province during the night, killing eleven soldiers and wounding four. Mohammad Naser Mehri, spokesman for the Farah provincial governor, said nine gunmen were killed and 13 others wounded. Mehri blamed the Taliban.

A suicide bomber hit a joint army and police checkpoint outside of Lashkar Gah in Helmand Province, killing a policeman and wounding eleven other soldiers and police. No one claimed credit.

July 15: *AFP*, *AP*, and *ABC News* reported that at 4:30 p.m., a suicide bomber on foot blew himself up at a security gate in front of the rural rehabilita-

tion and development ministry in Kabul, killing seven people and wounding 15 as employees were exiting the compound to go home.

July 16: During the night, a commando unit raided a Taliban prison in Musa Qala district in Helmand Province, freeing 54 people, including 32 civilians, 16 police, four soldiers, and two military doctors.

The Taliban attacked a police checkpoint in Arghistan district in Kandahar Province during the night, killing nine policemen and wounding seven. Some 25 Taliban were killed and 15 wounded.

Abdul Qayum Baqizoi, provincial chief police of Sar-i-Pul Province, said an ISIS-K suicide bomber killed 20 as village elders met with Taliban officials in the area. Fifteen were local elders and five were Taliban members, including a Taliban commander. Provincial council chief Mohammed Noor Rahman said the terrorist hit a mosque during a funeral.

July 19: An explosion in the Charhar Dara district of Kunduz Province killed 14 civilians, including women and children. The Taliban claimed U.S. airstrikes killed 27 people. Authorities said it was not clear whether it was due to a ground assault or an airstrike.

The Taliban attacked compounds and police security posts in Qarabagh district in Ghazni Province during the night. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said 16 police were killed and a government compound was damaged.

The Taliban attacked several security posts in Share Safa district in Zabul Province, killing six police and wounding three other police before escaping with ammunition and weapons.

July 22: An ISIS-K suicide bomber set off his explosives near Kabul International Airport shortly after controversial first vice president General Abdul Rashid Dostum, a former Uzbek warlord, landed. Twenty-three people, including civilians and soldiers, were killed and 107 were wounded. Dostum was unharmed and had left the airport in a convoy. He had lived in Turkey, where had been undergoing medical treatment, for more than a year. Dostum left Afghanistan in 2017 after the attorney-general's office began looking into allegations that his followers had tortured and sexually abused a former ally turned political rival. Among the dead was Mohammad Akhtar, 31, father of four children, who was working as a driver for *Agence France Presse* in Afghanistan. 18072201

Attahullah Khogyani, the provincial governor's spokesman, said that during the evening, gunmen shot at worshippers inside a mosque in Surkh Rod district in Nangarhar Province, killing four people and injuring three other people, including the mosque's religious leader.

A nighttime military operation by Afghan commando units in Kapisa Province killed a dozen Tal-

iban, including Mullah Nasim Mushfaq, Taliban shadow governor for Kapisa, and Qari Esanullah, shadow district chief for Tagab. Sharin Aqa Faqiri, army spokesman for northeast Afghanistan, said the senior Taliban leaders were in a meeting.

July 23: During the night, Taliban gunmen wearing border police uniforms stopped a security forces' vehicle and killed four local security forces inside the vehicle in Nazyan district in Nangarhar Province. No one claimed credit.

July 24: *AFP* and *AP* reported that a rocket hit a home in western Kabul's fifth district, injuring a man and two children. Two other rockets hit a nearby mountain. No one claimed credit.

Gunmen kidnapped a doctor, his driver and four university students in Ghor Province; three of the hostages were women. The district doctor was en route to Feroz Koh in an ambulance and picked up the university students who also wanted to go to Dawlat Yar district. Local government officials and tribal elders joined negotiations to free the hostages, who were believed to be Taliban.

In the evening, security forces detained 40 students from a religious school in Ghazni Province on suspicion of having Taliban links.

July 26: In the morning, a Taliban suicide bomber hit an Afghan intelligence service convoy in Kabul's 5th District, killing three intelligence officers and wounding five people, including three civilians and two intelligence officers. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said the group targeted intelligence service members returning from a mission.

July 28: Attahullah Khogyani, spokesman for the provincial governor, said a bomb went off near a training center for midwives in Jalalabad in Nangarhar Province, killing three people and wounding seven. ISIS-K claimed credit. The *New York Times* later reported that two died and eleven people, including three of the students, were wounded. The two suicide attackers, who had been firing automatic weapons and throwing grenades, set off their explosives as police surrounded them. The Afghan Ministry of Public Health runs the two-year program.

July 30: A suicide car bomber killed four people, including Haji Hayat Khan, a tribal leader who also commanded a local militia battling insurgents, in Nangarhar Province. ISIS-K claimed credit the next day.

July 31: Terrorists set off a suicide car bomb outside a repatriation center in Jalalabad. Two gunmen then ran inside the compound and conducted a six-hour gun battle, killing 15 people, including a woman and a policeman, and wounding 15 people before security forces killed the duo. No one claimed credit.

A roadside bomb hit a bus in Farah Province,

killing eleven people and injuring 31 civilians. The bus was en route from Herat Province to Kabul. Women and children were among the casualties. No one claimed credit.

August 2: Gunmen in Kabul kidnapped and killed three male Sodexo workers from India, Malaysia and Macedonia. Interior Ministry spokesman Nasrat Rahimi said "They were driven in a car to their working place and voluntarily went to a second car that took them away, with one of the drivers reporting to police that they were abducted." They were found in a car on the southern edge of the capital with their IDs. Sodexo is one of the world's leading food and catering services. 18080201

August 3: NPR, Reuters and the *Washington Post* reported that a suicide bombing of a Shi'ite mosque in Gardez in Paktia Province killed 39 and wounded 81, including at least 50 adults and 20 children. Two burka-wearing men clad in full-face veils fired guns and set off explosives at the Khawaja Hassan mosque in which more than 100 worshippers had gathered. One then blew himself up. Security guards shot down his partner. The Taliban denied involvement. ISIS-K claimed credit on August 5.

August 5: A Taliban suicide bomber killed three Czech troops serving under the U.S. military's command and injured one American and two Afghan National Army soldiers in a village near Charakar in the area of the main U.S. military base of Bagram in Parwan Province. 18080501

In the morning, 42 Afghan soldiers were killed in two separate attacks in Uruzgan Province when the Taliban attacked their posts.

ISIS-K killed an Afghan soldier and wounded three troops and a civilian in Jalalabad.

August 6: VOA and Reuters reported that Mufti Ni-amtullah, ISIS-K's deputy commander in Jowzjan Province, was among some 245 militants who surrendered to Afghan government forces the previous week in Jowzjan Province. Numerous women in Darzab district of the province earlier accused him and his fighters of abducting and raping them. Others who surrendered included Maulavi Habib ul-Rahman and Mufti Nemat, ISIS-K commanders who were brothers-in-law. The duo had fought for the Taliban, but joined ISIS-K in 2016. Some 100 of the prisoners were under age 18.

Four women were killed and four children were wounded in a crossfire during a shootout between gunmen and the military near Puli Alim in Logar Province.

During the night, the Taliban attacked a police checkpoint in Ghazni Province's Jaghatu district for three hours, killing four policemen and wounding five.

During the night and into the next morning, the Taliban attacked a military checkpoint in Bala Buluk

district in Farah Province, killing four troops and wounding six. Afghan air force airstrikes killed 19 Taliban fighters and wounded 30.

August 14: The *USA Times* of the KVH Media Group on August 12, 2018, reported that the Taliban overran a base in the north, killing 17 soldiers.

August 16: Reuters, AP, and the *USA Times* of the KVH Media Group on August 16, 2018, reported that a suicide bomber hit a school in the Shi'ite Dasht-I Barcha area of Kabul, killing 48 people, many believed to be students, and wounding 67. ISIS-K claimed credit.

Reuters reported that gunmen attacked an area around a security base and training center for the national intelligence service in Kabul, holding it for seven hours before authorities killed two jihadis in a gun battle. Kabul police spokesman Hashmat Stanekzai said the attackers had fired rocket-propelled grenades as well as automatic rifles. ISIS-K claimed credit.

August 20: The Taliban ambushed a convoy of three buses and kidnapped 170 bus passengers on a road in the Khan Abad district of Kunduz Province. All the passengers were from Badakhshan and Takhar Provinces and were traveling to Kabul. Hours later, Afghan forces rescued 149 of them, including women and children. Seven Taliban were killed.

In five days of fighting in Ghazni, the Taliban killed at least 100 members of the Afghan security forces and 35 civilians. The Defense Ministry said 200 Taliban were killed.

August 21: In the morning, a dozen short-range rockets were fired in Kabul while President Ashraf Ghani was delivering a speech marking the beginning of Eid al-Adha, a three-day Muslim festival. No casualties were reported. The Taliban denied involvement. No one claimed credit. A helicopter gunship bombed a warehouse, where the terrorists were hiding, near the Defense Ministry, killing three of them.

August 25: Reuters reported that a suicide attacker set off explosives near the office of Afghanistan's election commission in Jalalabad, where dozens of protesters had gathered, killing three people and wounding eight. The protesters were supporting a parliamentary candidate whom electoral officials had disqualified over his suspected links with illegal armed groups. No one claimed credit.

Reuters and AP reported that an airstrike killed eleven ISIS-K members, including its leader, Abu Sayeed Orakzai, alias Abu Saad Erhabi, in Nangarhar Province during the night. Afghan and foreign forces destroyed a large amount of heavy and light weapons and ammunition in raids on two ISIS-K hideouts.

August 27: The Taliban ambushed a convoy in Faryab Province, killing three Afghan army soldiers, wounding five, and damaging several army vehicles. Army air strikes killed dozens of insurgents. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said that in addition to “killing and wounding tens of troops” and setting several military vehicles on fire, the Taliban captured munitions from the army convoy.

Gunmen killed two military pilots in Kabul, then fled.

September 3: *CNN* and *Fox News* reported that Army Command Sergeant Major Timothy A. Bolyard, 42, of Thornton, West Virginia, was killed and another was wounded in what the military called “an apparent insider attack” by a member of the Afghan national police in Logar Province in eastern Afghanistan. Bolyard was assigned to 3rd Squadron, 1st Security Force Assistance Brigade, based at Fort Benning, Georgia. Afghans apprehended the fleeing shooter. 18090301

The Taliban attacked a district police headquarters in Paktia Province during the night, killing four police and wounding six. Sardar Wali Tabasim, spokesman for the provincial police chief, said that more than 20 insurgents were killed.

Jalaluddin Haqqani, 71, founder of the Haqqani Network, a former U.S. ally turned enemy, died after years of ill health. His son, Sirajuddin Haqqani, also deputy head of the Taliban, had run the group since Jalaluddin was paralyzed a decade earlier. Jalaluddin joined the Taliban when it overran Kabul in September 1996. In 2012 the United States declared the Haqqani Network a terrorist organization. Reports of his death were widespread in 2015. He was born into the Zardran tribe that dominates Paktia, Paktika and Khost Provinces, in 1947. He was a close friend of Osama bin Laden, who often took refuge in his camps outside Khost. He fathered a dozen sons. He suffered from Parkinson's disease. He studied a conservative form of Islam at the Darulaman Haqqania madrasa in northwest Pakistan. Haqqani served briefly as the Taliban regime's justice minister.

September 4: Insurgents attacked security checkpoints in northern and eastern Afghanistan, killing six police.

Two police officers were killed and four others were wounded in an attack near Qala-i-Now, capital of Badghis Province. Jamshid Shahabi, the governor's spokesman, said eleven attackers were killed and 16 wounded in the battle. The Taliban was suspected.

September 5: *Reuters* reported that the National Directorate of Security announced the arrest of eleven members of the Haqqani Network in Kabul. Special forces confiscated weapons, ammunition, and explosives. NDS said, “The group was mainly

involved in bomb blasts and targeted the killing of government employees and tribal elders in Kabul.”

Two bombs exploded in a Shi'ite-dominated section of Kabul, killing two local journalists and 20 other civilians. Public Health Ministry spokesman Waheed Majroh said 70 people were wounded. The number soon ratcheted up to 89 wounded.

In Kabul's Dasht-e Barchi area, a suicide bomber shot to death a guard of a gym at its gate and then blew himself up inside the facility, where spectators were watching a wrestling match. Twenty people died.

A second bomb, possibly a car bomb, went off, killing local *Tolo News* TV journalists Samim Faramarz and Ramiz Ahmadi and wounding four other people. One of the journalists had appeared on live television to report the attack on the gym.

The Taliban denied involvement. ISIS-K was suspected.

During the night, the Taliban was suspected of overrunning a security outpost in Badghis Province and ambushing reinforcements, killing ten soldiers.

September 6: A police official in Takhar Province shot at his colleagues in the morning, killing all eight, before escaping.

September 8: Gelani Farhad, the provincial governor's spokesman, said gunmen attacked a checkpoint in Herat Province, killing nine Afghan security forces and wounding six. Ten gunmen died and five were wounded. The Taliban were suspected.

Hakmat Durani, spokesman for the police chief of Maidan Wardak Province, said the Taliban attacked a district headquarters west of Kabul during the night, killing ten police officers, including a district chief, and setting off a gun battle in which dozens of insurgents were killed.

September 9: During the previous two days, gunmen killed 29 Afghan security forces in attacks on the 17th anniversary of the killing of prominent anti-Taliban leader Ahmad Shah Masood.

Ghafor Ahmad Jawed, spokesman for the Defense Ministry, said the Taliban attacked security checkpoints in Baghlan Province, killing five army soldiers and four police officers. No one claimed credit.

Public Health Ministry spokesman Wahid Majroh announced that a suicide bomber targeted a convoy of mourners marking the Masood anniversary, killing two people and hospitalizing ten, some in critical condition. A police official said that at least seven people were killed and more than 25 others were wounded.

In the morning, police in Kabul shot to death a suicide attacker before he could set off his explosives.

Mohammad Yusouf Ayubi, head of the provincial council in Kunduz Province, said that 13 security

forces were killed and 15 security forces were wounded in an attack on a checkpoint in Dashti Archi district. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed credit.

September 10: Taliban attacks in the north against Afghan security forces killed 52 people.

Provincial Police Chief Gen. Faqir Mohammad Jawzjani said the Taliban attacked Khamyab district in Jawzjan Province from different directions, killing eight policemen and wounding three police. Seven Taliban were killed and eight were wounded. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed credit.

In the morning, provincial spokesman Sediq Azizi said that the Taliban killed 14 local Afghan policemen and pro-government militiamen and wounded six others in the Dara Suf district of Samangan Province. Three Taliban fighters were killed and four were wounded. No one claimed credit.

Provincial police chief General Abdul Qayum Baqizai and provincial governor Zahir Wahdat said the Taliban attacked checkpoints of the army and pro-government militia near Sari Pul city, killing 17 Afghan security forces and two pro-government militia fighters and wounding three others. The governor said that 39 Taliban fighters were killed and 14 others were wounded in the battles.

September 11: General Ghulam Sanayee Stanikzai, police chief of Nangarhar Province, said that a suicide bomber detonated his explosives-filled vest among 400 people protesting local police commander Bilal Shah in Momandara district in Nangarhar Province, killing 32 people and wounding 130, many critically. By September 12, the death toll had risen to 68. No group claimed credit. Protestors wanted the dismissal and arrest of Shah, accused of severe abuses, including torture, abductions and killings. He was briefly arrested recently over allegations from locals, but was later freed.

A bomb went off near a school in Jalalabad, killing a student, 14, and wounding four others.

Two other bombs exploded in Behsud district, near two students in Nangarhar Province.

September 13: Farah Provincial council chief Farid Bakhtawar said that Taliban attacks killed ten soldiers and two policemen. Taliban fighters tried to overrun the army base in Pusht Road district in the morning, using artillery to attack the troops. Another three soldiers were wounded in the four-hour-long gun battle in which 22 Taliban died.

Three policemen died in a suspected Taliban attack on a police security post in Bala Buluk district in Farah Province.

Army spokesman Abdul Qadir Bahadorzai said that a car bomb exploded in Lashkar Gah in Helmand Province, wounding two civilians.

During the night, the Taliban attacked a security outpost in Samangan Province, killing six members of the local security force, including local police and members of a pro-government militia.

Provincial Police Chief Ghulam Sanayee Stanikzai blamed the Taliban when a roadside mine exploded in Nangarhar Province's Khogyani district, wounding five civilians.

September 16: During the night, the Taliban attacked police checkpoints in Farah Province, killing 17 members of the security forces. They killed ten policemen at checkpoints in Push Rod district. They killed seven security forces and abducted three in Bala Buluk district. Also in Bala Buluk, six policemen surrendered following a gunfight with the Taliban.

September 17: Taliban attacks on Afghan checkpoints and police and military bases throughout the country during the previous two days killed 27 members of the security forces.

In the morning, the Taliban killed five police officers, including Abdul Hakim, the police commander of a reserve unit, near Qala-i-Now, capital of Badghis Province. Jamshid Shahabi, spokesman for the Badghis governor, said 22 Taliban were killed and 16 others were wounded.

The Taliban attacked a joint army and police base in the Baghlani Markazi district of Baghlan Province, killing three army and two police officers and wounding four other security forces. Twenty Taliban were killed or wounded.

In the late evening, a policeman fired on his colleagues at a checkpoint in Balkh Province's Char Bolak district, killing nine officers and wounding another. Three officers were missing. The attacker, a policeman from another checkpoint in the same district, fled, apparently to join the Taliban. He took all weapons from the checkpoint.

September 18: The National Directorate of Security arrested 26 suspected ISIS-K members, including a group leader, in Kabul. They had planned to target Shi'ite Muslims during the commemoration of Ashura later in the week.

September 20: In the morning, three Taliban attacks on security outposts in Ab Band district in Ghazni Province killed five members of the security forces and wounded two policemen in hours-long gun battles. Arif Noori, a spokesman for the provincial governor, said six Taliban fighters were killed and four were wounded.

Police officer Amin Jan said a roadside bomb wounded five people in Nangarhar Province.

September 21: In the afternoon, a roadside bomb went off in the Shrin Tagab district of Faryab Province, killing eight children and wounding six children, two critically. The children, aged five to

twelve, were playing with the bomb. The government blamed the Taliban.

September 28: Aziz Ahmad Azizi, the provincial governor's spokesman, said a police officer shot to death two fellow police officers and wounded three other police in a nighttime insider attack at a remote police outpost in Raghistan district in Kandahar Province. The attacker, who had joined the police nearly a year earlier, fled. No one claimed credit.

September 30: Abdul Ghani Musamem, a spokesman for the provincial governor, said that security forces killed three bodyguards of independent parliamentary candidate Atallah Safi during a raid on a house near his residence in Kunar Province and arrested two suspects. Safi was unharmed. Elections were scheduled for October 20.

October 2: A suicide bomber hit an election rally in Kama district in Nangarhar Province, killing 14 people and wounding 40, some critically. The bomb went off as supporters of Abdul Naser Mohmand gathered in the afternoon to back his campaign as an independent candidate. No one claimed credit.

During the night, the Taliban attacked a checkpoint in Nimroz Province, killing four police and wounding two others. Police spokesman Wali Ahmad Sarih said four insurgents were killed and six wounded in the ensuing gunbattle.

Aziz Ahmad Azizi, spokesman for the governor of Kandahar Province, said the Taliban attacked a checkpoint, killing three police and wounding six during the night. The Taliban claimed credit.

During the night, the Taliban attacked a police checkpoint in the Khoja Sabezposh district of Faryab Province. During the gun battle, which raged into the next morning, two policemen were killed and two others wounded. Six Taliban were killed and ten were wounded.

October 4: Two women were killed and 16 people, including 14 women, wounded when their vehicle hit a mine during the afternoon in Zhari district in Kandahar Province.

A bomb near a nongovernmental organization office in Nangarhar Province killed two people and wounded seven others.

A sticky bomb attached to a vehicle exploded in Kabul, killing one person and wounding another.

October 6: A roadside bomb hit a military vehicle when police arrived to respond to an insurgent attack in Kabul; a second blast took place in the same area, causing casualties. Two security forces were killed and nine others, including six police officers and three civilians, were wounded. The police chief was among the wounded.

During the night, the Taliban destroyed highway bridges southwest of Kabul, cutting off road traffic between the capital and Ghazni, Zabul and Kanda-

har Provinces. Six Afghan police, including a district police chief, were killed in the fighting. The Taliban attacked remote checkpoints, apparently trying to seize the Sayed Abad district headquarters in Maidan Wardak Province. The battle also cut off electricity in Maidan Wardak, Logar, Ghazni and Paktia Provinces.

October 8: During the night, a Taliban assault in Qush Typa district in Jawzjan Province killed 12 members of the security forces and wounded ten. General Faqir Mohammad Jawzjani, provincial police chief in Jawzjan, said 30 Taliban were killed and 19 wounded. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed credit.

The Taliban attacked a district in Ghazni province, killing three members of the security forces and wounding five.

October 9: A suicide bomber hit the home of election candidate Saleh Mohammad Achekzai in Lashkar Gah in Helmand Province, killing the candidate and seven others he was meeting.

October 11: *Reuters* reported that the Taliban killed 15 Afghan paramilitary border police in an attack on a checkpoint in the Qala-e Zal district of Kunduz Province. Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid said there were 25 casualties and that seven police were wounded.

The National Directorate of Security said that 21 Taliban, including senior commanders, died in an Afghan special forces raid in Wardak as the Taliban gathered to plan attacks aimed at disrupting parliamentary elections on October 20.

A car bomb targeting an election campaign headquarters in Faryab Province exploded prematurely, killing civilians and several Taliban.

October 12: Military spokesman Hanif Rezaie said the Taliban attacked a military outpost in Archi district in Kunduz Province in the morning, killing four soldiers and four civilians and wounding six other people. Several Taliban died.

A bomb exploded during a nighttime wedding ceremony in the Mohammad Agha district of Logar Province, killing five civilians and wounding seven. Mohammad Naser Ghairat, a provincial council member in Logar, said the bomb was planted near the house where the wedding was taking place. The groom and bride were not hurt. No one claimed credit.

October 13: *RFE* reported that around noon, explosives placed on a motorcycle went off at an election rally in Takhar Province's Rustaq district, killing 22 people and wounding 32, several critically. The bomb went off before Nazefa Yusoufi Beg, a female candidate running for a seat in parliament in the October 20 elections, arrived. No one claimed credit.

Two gunmen on a motorcycle opened fire at the campaign office of parliamentary candidate Sayed Azem Kabrzani in the Injil district of Herat Province, killing a security guard and a child and wounding another person. The candidate was not in the office.

AP and *Radio Free Europe* reported that Ghausuddin Noorzai, district chief in Pusht Rod in Farah Province, said that starting at night and continuing into the morning, the Taliban attacked an army base, killing 17 Afghan soldiers, wounding four, and abducting eleven others. The Taliban also overran two checkpoints near the base, seizing weapons and ammunition. The Taliban claimed credit.

The police chief of Mizan district was killed in clashes with the Taliban in Zabul Province. The Taliban claimed credit.

October 15: During the night, the Taliban attacked a security outpost in the Dari Suf district of Samangan Province, killing seven policemen, including a deputy provincial police chief, and injuring five policemen. The Taliban stole two armored personnel carriers, a police vehicle and an ambulance.

October 16: DPA reported that during the night, German CH-53 transport helicopters flying from Kunduz to Mazar-i-Sharif were shot at by people on the ground, injuring no one. German troops returned fire. 18101601

October 17: A Taliban bomb killed Abdul Jabar Qahraman, a prominent Afghan candidate for parliament, and three other people and wounded seven people. He was the tenth candidate to die in recent weeks. The Taliban said the “renowned communist general” died in a “tactical blast” in Lashkar Gah in Helmand Province. The bomb was hidden beneath a sofa he was sitting on in the yard of his campaign office as he met with supporters. Qahraman served as an army general during the occupation of Afghanistan by the former USSR. He later served as an envoy for President Ashraf Ghani, leading the battle against the Taliban in Helmand. He was trying to revive the communist party.

In the nighttime, a suicide vehicle bomber crashed into a NATO convoy, killing two Afghan civilians and wounding five Czech soldiers, one seriously, and three Afghan civilians near Bagram Air Base in Bagram district of Parwan Province. The Taliban claimed credit. 18101701

The Taliban attacked checkpoints in Baghlan Province, killing six policemen and wounding two others in a four-hour gun battle.

A suicide car bomber targeted a military vehicle, killing two Afghan army troops in Maidan Wardak Province.

October 18: CNN reported that at 3 p.m., an elite Afghan guard fired a Kalashnikov rifle on Americans and Afghans attending a meeting at Kandahar

Palace regarding election security with U.S. Army General Austin “Scott” Miller, 57, the senior U.S. commander in Kabul, killing Lieutenant General Abdul Raziq Achakzai, 39, the chief of police of Kandahar Province; Kandahar Governor Zalmay Wesa (later reports said he survived); and Abdul Mohmin, the Kandahar director of Afghanistan’s intelligence service, the National Directorate of Security; and wounding three members of the NATO-led coalition, including a U.S. service member, a coalition contractor and a U.S. civilian government employee. The *Washington Post* reported on October 21 that U.S. Army Brigadier General Jeffrey Smiley was wounded. General Miller was unharmed. The U.S. military killed the shooter. The Taliban claimed credit, saying Miller was the intended target. Raziq had survived dozens of previous assassination attempts, according to NPR. The Afghan National Security Council postponed polling in Kandahar Province for one week.

Intelligence chief Masoom Stanikzai told journalists in Kandahar that the lone shooter gave a false name when he enrolled recently in the provincial security service. He added that 15 other people were arrested. He said that 15 minutes before the attack, the plotters received a phone call from “across the border,” meaning Pakistan, giving them instructions. “It is clear that the enemies of Afghanistan planned this plot on the other side of the border.” 18101801

October 20: Police reported that a suicide bomber hit an election polling station in Kabul’s Khair Khana neighborhood, killing three people.

Gunmen fired rockets and mortars at the Baghlani Markazi district of Baghlan Province, killing two people and injuring 22 in an attempt to terrorize voters.

A bomb exploded in the capital of Pul-e-Kumri in Baghlan Province, injuring one person.

The Taliban engaged in a firefight with security personnel at check points on main roadways in Baghlan Province.

Gunmen fired rockets at the education department building in Maidan Shahr, capital of Wardak Province, and targeted several other locations in the town.

Two police and two civilians were wounded when police tried to defuse a bomb found near a polling station in northwestern Kabul.

The Taliban ambushed and killed four local police in Ghor Province as they were going to a polling center in Firozkoh.

A mortar hit a residential area in the capital of Farah Province, causing no injuries.

The Taliban fired artillery rounds onto roads leading to polling stations in Kunar Province’s Nari district, injuring two women.

Kabul police official Jan Agha said a “sticky bomb” placed under the vehicle of an intelligence officer exploded in western Kabul’s Karte Se neighborhood hours after polling began.

A bomb exploded in Kabul’s Qarabagh neighborhood as voters were lining up.

AP reported that 27 civilians and eleven Afghan security forces were killed and more than 100 others wounded in nearly 200 attacks on election day across the country.

October 21: A roadside bomb killed eleven civilians, including six children, in Nangarhar Province. No one claimed credit.

October 22: An Afghan special operations forces commando shot at coalition forces in a car in the Shindand region of Herat Province, killing a Czech NATO soldier and wounding two others. Taliban spokesman Qari Yusuf Ahmadi said the attacker was a Taliban “infiltrator.” 18102201

October 24: Provincial spokesman Abdul Hai Khatebi said that the Taliban killed a woman accused of adultery and her lover in Ghor Province after it was discovered that she had fled her husband to be with another man. The couple tried to flee on a motorcycle but got stopped and captured by the Taliban at checkpoint in their district.

October 29: A suicide bomber walked toward the gate of the heavily fortified election commission offices in Kabul. Police became suspicious and opened fire. He set off his explosives vest, killing a police officer and wounding five people. The Islamic State claimed credit. IS said “martyrdom-seeker Abu Usama al-Badkhishi” exploded his vest near two Afghan security vehicles and a van carrying commission employees.

November 3: A member of the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces turned his gun on his colleagues, killing Brent Taylor, 39, a member of the Utah National Guard and Mayor of North Ogden, Utah, and injuring another U.S. service member in Kabul. Other Afghan security forces killed the attacker. Taylor was months from finishing his tour. He was survived by his wife, Jennie, and seven children. They celebrated their 15th wedding anniversary in October. He was elected Mayor in 2013. He graduated from Brigham Young University. He had returned to Afghanistan in January 2018 after serving two tours of duty in Iraq and one in Afghanistan. For his fourth tour, he took a temporary leave of absence from his mayoral duties. 18110301

November 4: A late-night Taliban attack in Kandahar Province’s Khakrez district killed four policemen and wounded two others. Six gunmen were killed and seven wounded. A checkpoint was also attacked.

November 5: In the early morning, the Taliban at-

tacked a newly established joint Afghan army and police checkpoint in Khogyani district in Ghazni Province, killing seven soldiers and six policemen and wounding four soldiers. Reinforcements were ambushed four times along the way. Six gunmen died and more than ten were wounded during the ensuing three-hour battle.

Military.com reported that the Report to Congress by the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction indicated that 85 Afghan troops were killed and 36 wounded in insider attacks from January 1 to August 26, 2018.

During the night, the Taliban attacked border troops at an outpost in the Posht Koh district of Farah Province, killing 20 and kidnapping another 20. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed several military vehicles and large amounts of ammunition were seized.

November 6: During the night, the Taliban attacked two checkpoints outside Farah, sparking an hours-long battle that killed eight policemen and wounded three.

November 8: Taliban attacks in the central and eastern regions killed 13 policemen.

Council member Ghulam Hussain Changiz in Ghazni Province said terrorists attacked a police outpost in the early morning in Khugyani district, killing eight policemen, including a district commander. A firefight lasted for several hours. The Taliban stole weapons and ammunition.

In another morning attack on a police outpost in Wardak Province, the Taliban killed five policemen and injured three policemen.

During the night, the Taliban attacked police in Farah city, killing seven policemen and wounding three.

November 9: In the morning, the Taliban targeted an army outpost in Khwaja Ghar district in Takhar Province, killing ten soldiers and wounding a dozen. Authorities said the Taliban suffered “heavy casualties.” Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed responsibility.

November 10: A bomb exploded in the afternoon in the Herat Province office of Amir Haftbalah, administrative chief for Kohsan district, killing him and wounding two visitors. The government blamed the Taliban.

November 10–11: In the late night and continuing into morning, the Taliban attacked a small army base in Baghlan Province, killing 12 members of the security forces, wounding three, kidnapping two, burning down the base, and leaving behind explosives that killed four tribal elders who had come to help collect the bodies. The Taliban claimed the attack and seized ammunition from the base.

November 12: A suicide bomber on foot set off his

suicide vest at a rally of Shi'ites in Kabul protesting attacks on their community in Ghazni Province districts of Jaghuri and Malistan, killing six people and wounding 22. ISIS-K claimed credit.

The Taliban killed at least 20 Afghan policemen over the past 24 hours in Ghazni Province. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid took credit.

November 13: Nine soldiers were killed and three were wounded in a gun battle during the night with the Taliban in the Sayed Abad district of Maidan Wardak Province. Five Taliban were killed.

November 14: The Taliban killed three police and wounded three police in Takhar Province.

November 14–15: In a four-hour nighttime attack on a police outpost in Khaki Safed district in Farah Province, the Taliban killed 30 policemen, members of both the national and local police force, including district police commander Abdul Jabbar. The Taliban stole a large amount of weapons and ammunition.

November 17: The Taliban attacked a police checkpoint in the Qadis district of Badghis Province in the morning, killing five police officers and wounding another three. The Taliban kidnapped one officer. The Taliban sustained several casualties in the hour-long gun battle. The Taliban claimed they seized ammunition.

In the evening, a roadside bomb killed the acting district chief and intelligence director in the Baraki Barak district of Logar Province as they were heading toward the district headquarters. The Taliban claimed credit.

November 20: A suicide bomber set off his suicide vest at an Afghan Ulema Council religious gathering in a wedding hall involving hundreds of delegates from various parts of Afghanistan in Kabul, killing 55 Sunni Muslim scholars and clerics and wounding 94 attendees, 20 critically, who were celebrating the birthday of the prophet Muhammad. ISIS-K was suspected. Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid said that the group “strongly condemns attacks on civilians and sessions of ulema.”

November 22: Mohammad Nasir Nazari, a member of the Badghis provincial council, said the Taliban ambushed a military convoy traveling in the morning through Qalay-e-Now, capital of Badghis Province, killing four Afghan soldiers and wounding seven soldiers.

November 23: A suicide bomber attacked a mosque packed with army troops on a sprawling main army base in the Mandozai district in Khost Province near the border with Pakistan during Friday prayers, killing 27 people and wounding 30. ISIS-K claimed credit the next day.

November 24: The Taliban claimed it had downed

an Afghan helicopter, killing two soldiers and wounding two others in Kandahar Province. The armed forces said it made an “emergency landing” due to a technical problem.

Abdul Basir Haqqani, a senior religious scholar, was shot to death in Kabul. Police arrested a man with a pistol near the scene.

Army Times and *AP* reported that U.S. Army Sergeant Leandro Jasso, 25, was mortally wounded in Nimruz Province's Khash Rod district in a gun battle against al-Qaeda. He was part of the elite 75th Ranger Regiment. One other U.S. service member was wounded. He was a team leader in Alpha Company of the Ranger Regiment's 2nd Battalion, which is based at Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington State. A native of Leavenworth, Washington, he enlisted in the Army in August 2012. He completed initial entry training, airborne school, and the Ranger Assessment and Selection Program. He was on his third deployment with the Rangers and had earned the Combat Infantryman Badge, Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, Ranger Tab, and the Expert Infantryman Badge. 18112401

November 25: The Taliban ambushed a police convoy in Farah Province, killing 20 policemen and wounding four, including the deputy provincial police chief. The convoy was on its way to Lash wa Juwayn district to introduce a newly appointed district police chief when it came under attack. He was also killed.

November 26: Gunmen attacked a checkpoint in the Qaisar district of Faryab Province, killing ten troops and wounding three. Another five soldiers were unaccounted for.

During demonstrations in Kabul against the arrest of Abdul Ghani Alipoor, a Shi'ite militia leader in western Ghor Province, protesters opened fire at the police, wounding four policemen. Another 44 policemen were injured when protesters threw stones and other hard objects at them.

November 27: The *Washington Post* and *CNN* reported that a roadside bomb killed three U.S. service members and wounded three other service members and an American contractor in Andar district near Ghazni. The next day, the Pentagon identified the three dead soldiers as two Special Forces soldiers and a special tactics airman who was assigned to work alongside the Army:

- Army Capt. Andrew Ross, 29, of the 3rd Special Forces Group, was from Lexington, Virginia. He was on his second deployment. He left behind a wife.
- Army Sgt. 1st Class Eric Emond, 39, of the 3rd Special Forces Group, who had served for 21 years with the Marine Corps and later the Army.

The married father of three children grew up in Boston. He was on his seventh deployment. He was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart, his second.

- Air Force Staff Sgt. Dylan Elchin, 25, a combat controller whose job included directing aircraft overhead to support soldiers on the ground. He deployed in August 2018 as part of an Army Special Forces team. He graduated from Hopewell High School in Pennsylvania and enlisted in the Air Force in August 2012 as a combat controller. After completing training, he was assigned to the 26th Special Tactics Squadron at Cannon Air Force Base in New Mexico. He was engaged to be married.

- *Army Times* reported on December 2, 2018 that Sgt. Jason McClary, 24, died on December 2 in Landstuhl, Germany from his wounds. The infantryman, from Export, Pennsylvania, was an up-armored vehicle gunner for Attack Company of the 1st Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, out of Fort Carson, Colorado. He joined the Army in January 2014 and had been assigned to Fort Carson since October 2017. He was assigned to Afghanistan in April 2018. He had served in Iraq from May 2016 to January 2017. He earned two Purple Hearts, three Army Commendation Medals, one of which was with Valor, an Army Good Conduct Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Combat Infantry Badge and the Air Assault Badge. 18112701

During an overnight gun battle against the Taliban in Helmand Province, 30 civilians and 16 Taliban were killed.

November 28: At 7 p.m., a large suicide vehicle bomb exploded near a foreign private security company compound in the Kabul suburbs between a residential area for foreign aid workers and the military side of the capital's international airport, sparking a gun battle that went into the night. Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid said it attacked an "important base of occupying forces" used to organize and carry out attacks in Helmand and Kandahar Provinces and was retaliating for a U.S. airstrike in Helmand Province hours earlier that killed 30 people, many of them civilians. Six people, among them five of the firm's staffers, including a British citizen, were killed and 32 employees of the company were wounded, five seriously. The four attackers also died. An Afghan official said that the suicide vehicle detonated outside the front gate of an international private security compound, after which several gunmen ran inside the compound. *Reuters* reported that the blast site was close to the compound of British security contractor G4S Risk

Management Group, near an industrial park on the main road leading out of Kabul. 18112801

Three gunmen attacked the Kabul home of former intelligence chief Amarullah Saleh, but were repelled by Saleh's security guards.

December 1: An airstrike killed Mullah Abdul Manan Akhand, Taliban shadow governor in Kandahar, Zabul, Nimroz and Helmand Provinces, and two of his guards.

December 3: During the night, the Taliban attacked a police checkpoint in Sari Pul Province, killing a district police chief and another officer and wounding four policemen. The Taliban also took casualties in the hours-long gun battle.

December 4: The Taliban hit a police checkpoint in Herat Province during the night. In the ensuing gun battle, six attackers, a policeman and three civilians were killed.

Also during the night, gunmen kidnaped Engineer Zelmia, the director of a local TV station and shot to death his driver in Nangarhar Province. No one claimed credit.

December 6–7: Beginning in the night and continuing into the next morning, 200 Taliban gunmen using rocket-propelled grenade launchers and automatic machine guns attacked two Afghan army outposts in Shindand district in Herat Province, killing 14 Afghan soldiers and taking 21 captive. Fighting lasted for six hours. Shindand district chief Hekmatullah Hekmat said 30 Taliban were killed.

December 8: *NPR* reported that authorities raided a Taliban-run prison, killing three Taliban and freeing the prisoners.

A roadside bomb hit a vehicle in the Guzra district of Herat Province, killing three civilians, all from the same family. Gelani Farhad, the provincial governor's spokesman, blamed the Taliban.

Authorities arrested three ISIS-K members, including a member of the group's press department who had responsibility for propaganda in Nangarhar Province, during a military operation in Bahsud district.

Four Taliban were killed by their own bomb in the Qala-e Zal district of Kunduz Province as they tried to plant it.

An Afghan air force airstrike killed a local Taliban leader in Jawzjan Province.

During the night, the Taliban attacked an army checkpoint in Farah Province, killing eight Afghan soldiers and kidnapping ten. Three gunmen were killed and four were wounded.

December 10: During the night, the Taliban attacked a checkpoint in Kandahar Province, killing eight police. Provincial government spokesman Aziz Ahmad Azizi said 11 terrorists were killed.

December 11: A Taliban suicide car bomber hit a

security convoy outside Kabul, killing four security forces and eight civilians including two women and two children, and wounding a dozen people, including six other security forces.

December 13: Coalition assaults, including air strikes, on Taliban positions in Kunar Province killed 20 Taliban.

AP reported that a U.S. drone strike killed four suspected insurgents in Helmand Province.

December 24: A suicide car bomber set off his explosives outside a building housing the government's department for martyrs and disabled persons in Kabul. Three gunmen armed with automatic rifles and explosives then stormed the building. Four people were injured as they were preparing to leave for the day. Some 357 employees were evacuated, but the gunmen took several hostages. *U.S. News and World Report*, *AFP* and *AP* said police killed all three terrorists during the ten-hour gun battle in which 43 people were killed, including a police officer and at least 28 civilians, among them eleven women who worked in the Public Works Ministry and the Ministry for Martyrs and Disabled Persons, and 29, including three policemen, were wounded. Witnesses heard five explosions. Among the injured was employee Abdul Jalil, who told *ToloNews TV*, "They breached the armored door with a rocket.... I was hiding in the balcony. Two men entered our office. One told the other to bring a lighter, and they set the office on fire.... They came in and they were shooting at everyone. They were shooting at the closed doors. If anyone was there they shot them." He said he jumped from a second-story window and broke his leg. Five of his co-workers jumped with him from the window; his boss jumped from a third-story window. Abdul Aziz, a survivor with a bullet wound in his shoulder, told *ToloNews*, "Attackers appeared from downstairs and were shooting at anyone they saw." Gunmen fired at a childcare center. The Taliban denied involvement, but the government's chief executive, Abdullah Abdullah, tweeted, "The Taliban crime syndicate must know that with every attack they carry out against our people, our resolve is further strengthened to eliminate them. Their conduct is a disgrace to the very notion of peace."

December 25: A suicide bomber disguised as a beggar killed six people in a wealthy subdivision of Kandahar. Provincial council member Mohammad Yousof Younosi said the bomb went off a block away from his home and appeared to have targeted a group of Pakistanis from the Baluchistan region.

December 31: Afghan special forces, backed by helicopter gunships, killed 27 ISIS-K terrorists in Nangarhar Province's Achin district. Two local ISIS-K leaders, Sediq Yar and Syed Omar, were among those killed.

Three nighttime Taliban attacks in Sar-e-Pul Province killed 21 policemen, including an intelligence officer and two police commanders, and wounded 23. The gun battles continued for several hours in Sayyad district and outside Sar-e-Pul, the provincial capital. Taliban spokesman Qari Yousof Ahmadi claimed responsibility for the attacks.

Algeria

January 26: Eight "dangerous terrorists" were shot to death during a military counterterrorism operation against jihadis in Chechar, 325 miles east of Algiers. Police found several weapons, including two machine guns.

July 30: During a military search and sweep operation against jihadis, four gunmen and seven soldiers were killed in Bessi in the Skikda region. Several wounded soldiers were hospitalized in the Skikda hospital. The military recovered three machine guns.

Bahrain

September 25: Prosecutors charged 169 people on with being part of Bahraini Hizballah, noting that they held 111 people in custody after a series of raids. Charges included attempted murder, damaging property, and illegally possessing and hiding weapons. Prosecutors accused Iran's Revolutionary Guard of providing arms and training for the militants.

Egypt

January 4: Gunmen ambushed police riding in a car outside el-Arish, killing three policemen and a civilian and wounding another civilian. The terrorists fled.

January 9: The Interior Ministry announced that security forces killed eight suspected terrorists in a raid on a suspected hideout in el-Arish. The Ministry said the gunmen were planning to attack security forces. Authorities found explosives, rifles and ammunition.

January 13: Three masked gunmen killed Christian man Bassem Attallah, 35, north of the Sinai Peninsula. IS affiliates were suspected.

January 27: Hisham Genena, 63, a former head of the Central Auditing Organization, was seriously injured in his left eye and left leg during an apparent kidnapping attempt by three men armed with knives outside his suburban Cairo home. The trio jumped out of two cars that blocked his car's path. They pulled him out of his car and tried to put him in one of theirs. A brawl then broke out with passers-by who tried to rescue him in front of his

home. The rescuers apprehended the three attackers, but the drivers of the two cars escaped before police arrived. One of the three attackers filed a counter-complaint accusing him of assault. A few weeks earlier, he was named one of two top aides to would-be presidential candidate Sami Annan, a former military chief of staff. Two attorneys suggested that the attackers were criminals retained by the police as thugs. The military arrested Annan on January 23, accusing him of forgery and inciting against the military. Genena was en route to a court hearing for his appeal against his March 2016 removal by President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi from his job as head of the CAO. Pro-government media linked Genena to the banned Muslim Brotherhood.

January 30: MENA reported that the Cairo Criminal Court sentenced six alleged Muslim Brotherhood members to life in prison over charges including the attempted murder of soldiers and police. Another four defendants will serve 15 years on similar charges, including belonging to a terrorist group, murder and planning attacks against the state. Two defendants were sentenced to five years.

February 4: A roadside bomb exploded under a pickup truck carrying members of the security forces south of el-Arish, killing two and wounding five members of the security forces and a civilian. No one claimed credit, but the IS affiliate was suspected.

February 11: The military announced that the air force had killed 16 jihadis, destroyed 66 terrorist targets, including vehicles, weapons caches, communications centers and opium fields, and detained more than 30 suspects in the northern Sinai Peninsula.

The local IS affiliate released a 23-minute video calling for attacks during the March 26–28 presidential elections, warning Egyptians to stay away from polling centers. IS called elections “apostasy,” and said jihadis should “spoil the day of their apostasy, shed their blood and target the heads of apostasy among them.”

February 15: Military spokesman Colonel Tamer el-Rifaai announced that security forces had killed 53 jihadi since the February 9 beginning of a massive security operation, mainly in restive northern Sinai Peninsula, arrested five militants and 680 others including “criminal elements” and people suspected of supporting militants, and found and destroyed hundreds of hideouts, targets and explosive devices.

February 19: During anti-jihadi operations launched in Sinai on February 9, four jihadis and three troops, including an officer, were killed and two other officers and a conscript were wounded.

February 26: Military spokesman Colonel Tamer

al-Rifai said that three soldiers, including an officer, were killed while fighting gunmen in the Sinai Peninsula. Another three officers and four conscripts were wounded. Eleven gunmen died.

March 10: MENA reported that a court sentenced ten people to death and five to life in prison for forming a “terrorist cell” to plot attacks on security forces and state institutions, target Egypt’s Christian minority and disrupt public order. The defendants are affiliated with the now-outlawed Muslim Brotherhood group. Three defendants were sentenced in absentia. Life sentences in Egypt are equal to 25 years. The sentences were subject to appeal.

March 19: The military announced that during five days of fighting in the Sinai Peninsula, four Army soldiers, including an officer, and 36 jihadis were killed and eight soldiers, including two officers, were wounded. The military said it detained 345 suspects, destroyed 400 hideouts, munition and weapons depots and dismantled 93 explosive devices.

March 21: The Cairo Criminal Court sentenced in absentia nine alleged Muslim Brotherhood members to life imprisonment for forming a “terrorist cell” to plot attacks on security forces and other institutions. The suspects can be retried when/if captured. Life sentences in Egypt are equal to 25 years. The Court sentenced 13 defendants in custody to ten years each for planning to kill public figures and security officials, and joining an outlawed group. Two minors in custody were sentenced to two years.

The chief prosecutor referred 30 people to trial on suspicion of membership in an IS affiliate and planning to attack security personnel, state institutions, and the Christian minority and churches. Prosecutors said that they trained in IS camps in Syria and Libya.

March 24: A bomb exploded in Alexandria’s Roshdi district, killing a policeman and wounding four others as the head of the Alexandria Security Directorate was passing by. No group claimed credit.

April 1: The military announced that during the previous week, fighting in the Sinai Peninsula killed six militants and two soldiers and wounded two soldiers.

April 4: The Sohag Criminal Court sentenced 35 alleged Muslim Brotherhood members to life in prison for forming “terrorist cells” to attack security forces and state institutions. It sentenced another 155 defendants to three to 15 years in prison on similar charges, including plotting to kill public figures and security officials, and joining an outlawed group. Some 124 suspects remained at large.

April 14: At dawn, suicide bombers set off their explosive belts at the entrance to a military base in central Sinai, killing 14 terrorists and eight soldiers

and wounding 15 soldiers. *Amaq* reported that the IS affiliate claimed credit.

April 15: The court of cassation upheld death sentences for four people over forming a “terrorist cell” to plot attacks on security forces and other institutions and rejected an appeal by 14 other defendants against sentences of 15 years imprisonment in February over similar charges including joining an outlawed group—the Muslim Brotherhood. Six at large defendants were sentenced to life imprisonment in absentia.

April 18: Military spokesman Colonel Tamer el-Rifai announced that its forces killed Naser Abou Zaqoul, leader of the IS group in the Sinai Peninsula, in a shootout with troops in central Sinai.

The Zagazig criminal court sentenced three Muslim Brotherhood members to life in prison on terror-related charges and another 36 defendants to ten years in prison on similar charges, including rioting, inciting violence against security forces and joining an outlawed group—the Brotherhood. The court acquitted 14 people.

April 25: Colonel Tamer el-Rifai said three officers were killed and two wounded during the previous week in the northern Sinai Peninsula during gun battles with an IS affiliate. He claimed authorities killed 30 militants, arrested 173 suspects, dismantled more than 74 explosive devices, destroyed more than 430 hideouts, munition and weapons depots and targeted more than 40 illegal opium fields.

May 7: The chief prosecutor referred 555 terror suspects to a military court on charges of joining a local affiliate of ISIS. The suspects formed dozens of small militant cells and carried out 63 attacks against army and police forces in the Sinai Peninsula. Only 216 suspects were in custody.

June 27: Security forces killed ten Hasm terrorists who bombed the convoy of Alexandria’s former security chief in March 2018, killing two police. Six were killed in a shootout in Beheira Province and another four were killed in a clash in al-Ghanaim in Assiut Province. Police arrested two others.

July 11: *MENA* reported that security forces killed eleven suspected militants in a shootout in the northern Sinai Peninsula in a raid on a hideout in al-Arish. Authorities dismantled two explosive devices and seized weapons.

July 22: ISIS’s *Amaq* news agency announced the death earlier in the month of Abu Jaafar al-Maqdesi, one of its leaders of its affiliate in the Sinai Peninsula, deeming him a martyr.

July 24: *MENA* reported that security forces raided a suspected jihadi hideout in al-Arish, killing 13 gunmen, dismantling three bombs, and seizing weapons.

July 30: Police raided a Hasm hideout in the el-Obour district north of Cairo, killing five gunmen and arresting five.

August 5: The military announced that during anti-terrorist operations in the previous several days, soldiers had killed 52 suspected militants in northern Sinai, arrested 49 suspects, destroyed 26 hideouts and weapons depots, destroyed 32 vehicles containing weapons and ammunition, and dismantled 64 explosive devices.

August 27: Police killed five suspected jihadis in a raid on a suspected militant hideout in the Akhmim district of Sohag Province. Police seized weapons.

August 29: Security forces killed 20 suspected militants, destroyed 18 hideouts and weapons depots, destroyed 39 vehicles containing weapons and ammunition, dismantled 41 explosive devices and arrested 83 suspects in recent raids over the past few days in the Western Desert.

August 31: Several Muslims attacked Coptic Christian homes in Minya, injuring two Copts and a firefighter. The assailants objected to the presence of a church in the area.

September 4: Police arrested a man carrying a crude explosive device near the U.S. Embassy in Cairo. 18090401

October 1: ISIS’s *Amaq* news agency announced the death of “martyr” Abu Hamza al-Maqdisi, one of its leaders in the Sinai.

October 3: Police raided a suspected terrorist hideout in el-Arish where gunmen were planning attacks on security forces, killing 15. Security forces dismantled two explosive devices and seized weapons.

October 9: The Interior Ministry announced that security forces killed ten terrorists in a shootout on a deserted farm used as a hideout in el-Arish.

October 11: A military court in Alexandria sentenced 17 jihadis to death for involvement in deadly attacks on Christians, imposed life sentences to 19 defendants and sentenced another nine to 15 years in prison. Another defendant was sentenced to ten years. Military prosecutors had accused the defendants of belonging to ISIS and plotting attacks against Christian churches and security forces.

October 15: The Interior Ministry announced that in a dawn raid on a cave hideout along the Nile River, security forces killed nine “terrorists” who were planning attacks on vital installations. Authorities seized assault rifles, improvised explosive devices, ammunition and supplies.

October 16: Military spokesman Colonel Tamer el-Rifai said forces had killed more than 450 suspected militants since the beginning of a nationwide operation against militants in February 2018, dis-

mantled more than 1,200 explosive devices and destroyed some 1,900 vehicles and motorcycles. The government paid out 1 billion 380 million Egyptian pounds (more than \$77 million) to compensate residents who were forced to leave their homes in northern Sinai.

October 20: Gunmen killed three workers contracted to build a security wall in el-Arish and wounded a fourth outside their homes.

In two raids on hideouts in northern Sinai, security officials killed six militants. Two policemen were wounded in the shootouts.

October 24: During a dawn raid on a cave in the Western Desert near the Farafra Depression near Assiut, security forces killed eleven men in possession of weapons and ammunition, including explosives, who had planned “hostile operations.”

October 25: A roadside bomb killed three workers and wounded ten contracted to build a security wall in el-Arish. Officials blamed an Islamic State affiliate.

November 2: Gunmen in two SUVs shot at three buses carrying Coptic Christian worshipers from Sohag from a visit to Minya’s St. Samuel the Confessor Monastery, killing eight, including six from the same family, and wounding 19, including a child. One bus escaped when its driver swerved onto another road. Masked gunmen wearing military-style uniforms dragged the 20 passengers out of the other buses, took their cell phones, and killed all of the men. Among the dead were a boy and a girl, age 15 and 12 respectively. The Islamic State affiliate claimed credit via its *Amaq* news service, saying it killed 13 Christians. It was the first attack claimed by the group in 2018 outside northern Sinai. IS said the attack was revenge for the imprisonment by Egyptian authorities of “our chaste sisters.”

On November 4, Egyptian security forces killed 19 terrorists in a shootout at a desert hideout west of the central Minya Province. Among the dead were gunmen suspected of the Coptic Christian massacre. The gunmen opened fire when they realized they were being besieged by security forces. The government published photographs purporting to show the bodies of the terrorists, as well as rifles, shotguns and pistols. Other images showed the inside of a tent with the black banner of the Islamic State group unfurled on the ground.

November 7: A military court in Ismailia sentenced eight men to death in absentia for involvement in terrorist attacks on troops. Another 32 defendants received life sentences. The court sentenced another two to 15 years in prison on terror-related charges linked to the killing of at least 14 soldiers. The court acquitted two defendants. Military prosecutors had accused the defendants of belonging to

the Islamic State group and plotting attacks against security forces.

November 8: A Cairo criminal court convicted 65 suspects of setting up a terrorist group and declaring allegiance to ISIS, sentencing 18 of them to life in prison. The court sentenced 41 people to 15 years in prison and six more to five years. Two defendants were acquitted. Only 43 were in custody. The others, included two women, were at large. Prosecutors said the group set up cells in six provinces and trained on firearms and explosives.

November 22: The Interior Ministry announced that police killed 12 jihadis when security forces stormed three deserted buildings used as hideouts in the Sinai Peninsula. The terrorists shot at policemen as they surrounded the buildings in el-Arish. There were no casualties among the police.

December 12: The armed forces said it had killed 27 suspected jihadis in the Sinai Peninsula along the border with Libya, destroying 342 hideouts and weapons depots, dismantling 344 explosive devices and detaining more than 400 suspects and circa 3,000 illegal migrants. Airstrikes destroyed 61 vehicles containing weapons and ammunition in the Western Desert. One soldier was killed in a shootout.

December 17: Two roadside bombs hit two armored vehicles in a police convoy on a search-and-destroy mission west of the border town of Rafah in northern Sinai, killing two conscripts and wounding six conscripts.

December 20: The Interior Ministry announced that security forces killed eight militants and detained four more who planned attacks on minority Christians during the holiday season. The militants belonged to Hasm, which it said is an armed faction of the Muslim Brotherhood. Two of the eight killed were separately shot dead after they opened fire on security forces storming two residences in Cairo. The remaining six were killed in a shootout as they tried to flee Cairo.

December 28: The Interior Ministry said a roadside bomb concealed by a wall hit a tourist bus carrying 15 Vietnamese tourists in the Marioutiyah area near the Giza Pyramids, killing three Vietnamese tourists and their Egyptian guide and wounding 12 other people, including ten Vietnamese tourists, all seriously, and the Egyptian bus driver. 18122801

December 29: The Interior Ministry announced that security forces killed 40 militants in raids on their hideouts in the Sinai Peninsula and the Greater Cairo area. Ten gunmen died when the forces stormed their hideout in el-Arish; 14 were killed in the Cairo suburb of October 6; 16 others died in a housing project on a highway heading west from Cairo. The Ministry said the terrorists were prepar-

ing to attack government and tourism facilities, army and police personnel, and Christian churches.

Gaza Strip

January 9: *BBC* reported that Imad al-Alami, alias Abu Hamam, 61, one of the founders of Hamas and a former member of Hamas's political bureau, was "inspecting his personal weapon in his home" when the gun went off, critically wounding him in the face. The U.S. deemed him a "specially designated global terrorist" in 2003 for having oversight for the group's military wing in Gaza and the West Bank. He was also liaison to Iran. He lost a leg during the 2014 Israel-Hamas war. *Fox News* and the *Jerusalem Post* reported on January 31 that he died.

March 13: *CNN* and *WAFA* reported that Palestinian Authority Prime Minister Rami al-Hamdallah survived a morning assassination attempt in northern Gaza, where he was marking the opening of a new water treatment facility. He had passed through the Erez border crossing from Israel when a bomb detonated near his convoy, which included Palestinian Authority Minister of Intelligence Majid Faraj. Six bodyguards sustained minor injuries. Fatah blamed Hamas in Gaza. Hamas claimed it had arrested several suspects, and said "Israel and its agents" were behind the attack.

March 19: Shin Bet announced that Romain Franck, 24, a French national working for the French Consulate in Jerusalem, was detained on suspicion of smuggling weapons for Hamas out of the Gaza Strip to the occupied West Bank on five occasions in recent months. Shin Bet said he used a Consulate diplomatic vehicle to move around 70 pistols and two assault rifles. The agency said, "The investigation clearly shows that the employee of the French Consulate acted for financial gain, on his own initiative and without the knowledge of his superiors.... This is a very grave incident in which the immunity and privileges granted to foreign missions in Israel was cynically exploited." Authorities arrested a Palestinian resident of East Jerusalem, who works as a security guard at the French Consulate in Jerusalem, plus several Palestinians from Gaza living illegally in the West Bank in connection with the smuggling ring. Six of the individuals were to be indicted by the Southern District Court.

April 8–9: On April 9, Israeli fighter jets struck a Hamas target in the Gaza Strip in response to two explosive devices found on April 8 near Israel's border with the territory. No injuries were reported.

May 27: Israeli shelling killed three Palestinian militants from the Islamic Jihad group after troops found a bomb planted along the border.

May 28: An Israeli tank fired at a Hamas position,

killing one man and wounding another, after Israeli troops were shot at on the frontier while apprehending two armed Palestinians.

May 29: Israeli jets conducted 35 airstrikes against seven sites, including an Islamic Jihad training site in Deir al-Balah in Gaza and other Hamas-run facilities, hours after militants from the territory fired more than 25 mortar shells toward communities in southern Israel, causing no casualties. Most of the shells were intercepted by the Iron Dome defense system. One shell landed near a kindergarten shortly before it opened. By the end of the day, Palestinians in the Strip had fired more than 70 rockets and mortar shells into Israel, injuring seven people, including three soldiers.

Hamas and Islamic Jihad issued a joint statement taking credit for the rocket attacks, observing, "We conduct this battle with the Zionist enemy in accordance with the interest of the Palestinian people.... We will not allow the enemy to impose new equations by shedding the blood of our people and warn them against continuing."

June 3: The Israeli military hit 15 Hamas targets, including military compounds, munition factories and naval forces, in the morning in retaliation for the resumption of rocket fire toward Israel. Israel's Iron Dome defense system intercepted some and others landed inside Gaza. No injuries were reported. Palestinians had also set fires via kites rigged with incendiary devices, or attached to burning rags, damaging forests and burning southern agricultural fields.

June 17: In the morning, Israeli aircraft struck a vehicle belonging to someone who sent burning kites into Israel from Gaza. No one was injured. Burning kites set fields on fire in more than a dozen locations the previous day. Israel held Hamas responsible for the fires. A parliamentary committee found that the fires had destroyed more than 6,000 acres of land in recent weeks, causing some \$2 million in damages. The military said its drones shot down more than 90 percent of the kites and flaming balloons.

June 18: Israeli fighter planes hit nine Hamas targets after Hamas rockets and incendiary kites and balloons fell on Israel.

June 19: *UPI* quoted the Israeli Defense Force as saying that said 30 rockets were fired into Israel from Gaza overnight. The Iron Dome anti-missile system knocked down seven rockets, while three landed on the Gaza Strip. No injuries or damages were reported. In three operations, the IDF hit 25 targets in Gaza in response to launching of incendiary kites and balloons into Israeli territory.

June 27: The Israeli military said more than a dozen rockets fired from Gaza were aimed at southern Is-

raeli communities in a morning attack. The Iron Dome defense system knocked down several rockets. No injuries were reported.

July 13–14: Hamas fired 100 rockets into Israel. The Iron Dome aerial defense system knocked down ten rockets. Israeli retaliatory sorties hit 40 Hamas targets including tunnels, logistical centers and a Hamas battalion headquarters.

ABC News reported later on July 14 that the Magen David Adom medical service said a rocket hit a home in Sderot in the evening. Paramedics treated three people in light to moderate condition, among them a man, 52, with a chest wound, a girl, 17, with a face wound and a woman, 20, with injuries to her limbs. Aharon Buchris was hit in the head and legs.

July 20: The *Jerusalem Post* reported that Palestinian snipers killed soldier Aviv Levi, 21, near the Gaza border. Israeli airstrikes hit 25 Hamas positions, including weapons warehouses, command and control centers, training facilities, observation posts, and other sites. Four Palestinians were killed. Hamas said three were members of Hamas.

July 26: During the night, Hamas was believed to have fired nine rockets from Gaza into Israel. One rocket was intercepted; the others landed in open fields. Israel had shelled Hamas targets, killing three Hamas militants, in response to sniper fire at troops on the border that moderately wounded an Israeli officer. Hamas said the trio were members of the Hamas armed forces. 18072603

August 3: An Israeli tank fired at a Hamas military post in Gaza after Palestinians briefly crossed the frontier and threw bombs.

September 28: The Iran-backed Palestinian Islamic Jihad announced that Ziad al-Nakhalah, 65, would lead the group's secretly elected politburo, replacing longtime leader Ramadan Shalah. Al-Nakhala was a founding member of PIJ, which emerged in the 1980s. A Gaza native, he has been based in Syria and Lebanon since Israel deported him in 1988. In 2014, the U.S. State Department designated al-Nakhalah, then the movement's deputy chief, as a "Global Terrorist" for encouraging attacks against Israel.

October 25: Israeli jets hit eight military targets in three Hamas compounds in the Gaza Strip in retaliation for an overnight rocket attack on southern Israel.

October 26–27: Terrorists fired more than 70 mortar rounds from the Gaza Strip into Israel during the night. Israeli military jets hit 87 targets in the Palestinian enclave, including command posts, weapons manufacturing facilities and a four-floor building housing Hamas's general security agency. Israel said it held Hamas responsible and that Iran's

Revolutionary Guard's al-Quds force was behind the latest attacks. An Army spokesman said it was aware that Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Gaza's second largest militant group, was behind the latest round of rockets, working "under guidance, instruction and incentives from Iran's Revolutionary Guard, Quds force, based in Damascus." The Army said eight targets that it struck belonged to the group. Islamic Jihad claimed credit for firing the rockets, saying it was in response to the "continuing cold-blooded killing by the Israeli occupation and the continued shedding of the blood of peaceful civilians." That morning, the group announced a cease-fire. Israel said the rockets caused no casualties; 17 were intercepted by the Iron Dome defense systems or fell in open areas. One mortar damaged the Erez crossing, the main passage between Israel and Gaza used for humanitarian purposes. Israeli military spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Jonathan Conricus said that Syria played an unspecified role in the rocket fire.

November 11: Palestinians apparently discovered a covert operation by Israel two miles inside the Gaza Strip, and sparked a gun battle, air strikes, and a barrage of rocket fire in which a senior Israeli military officer identified only as Lieutenant Colonel M., and seven militants, including a Hamas commander, were killed and another soldier was injured during the night. Hamas's military wing, the Izzedine al-Qassam Brigades, said that "Zionist enemy special forces," in a civilian car infiltrated east of the Palestinian town of Khan Younis. The group said local Hamas military commander Nour el-Deen Baraka, 37, was "assassinated." The Palestinian Ministry of Health said the other dead Palestinians were Mohammed al-Qara, 23; Khaled Ali Kwaider, 29; Mustafa Abu Odeh, 21; Mahmoud Musabeh, 25; Alaa Fawzi Mohammed, 19; and Omar Abu Khader, 21. Hamas fired eleven rocket rounds during the night; two were intercepted by Israel's Iron Dome anti-missile defense system. The next day, Hamas and Islamic Jihad jointly claimed credit for firing at least 80 rockets and mortar shells into southern Israel, critically wounding an Israeli man, 19. Five other people were wounded. Israeli TV showed a building on fire in a shopping center in Sderot. Islamic Jihad spokesman Daoud Shehab said the groups retaliated "so the occupation and its supporters know that the lives of our sons come with a price." AP reported that a man was killed in a Palestinian rocket attack. He was later identified as Mahmoud Abu Asbeh, 48, a Palestinian laborer who had worked in Ashkelon for 15 years, leaving his West Bank village of Halhul each Sunday and returning home on weekends. His body was found in the rubble of a building struck by a rocket fired from Gaza. His cousin said Mahmoud was married with

six children. A woman was critically wounded in the shelling.

Iran

January 3: State television reported that three security forces were killed in clashes with “armed counter-revolutionary bandits” near the Kurdish town of Piranshahr.

January 24: The government announced that it had seized a large supply of ammunition from a separatist group in a Kurdish-majority area.

January 27: *Fars* reported that the Revolutionary Guard fought 21 ISIS-linked suspects in clashes in the northwest, arresting several of them. The suspects had entered Iran via its western border.

May 6: *Mizanonline.com* quoted Tehran prosecutor Abbas Jafari Dolatabadi as saying that the judiciary had sentenced 16 female members of ISIS who had previous records of terrorist activity to jail after returning to the country. In November 2017, authorities arrested several women with links to ISIS, many of them wives of ISIS fighters.

May 21: *IRNA* reported that during the night, gunmen broke into a policeman’s house in Zahedan, capital of Sistan and Baluchistan Province, killing two people and wounding a third.

June 5: *IRNA* reported that gunmen killed two Iranian border guards, both sergeant majors, in a nighttime shootout near Sardasht near the border with Iraq.

June 9: *IRNA* quoted General Mohammad Pakpour, chief of the Revolutionary Guard’s ground forces, as saying that his soldiers killed six terrorism suspects and injured three suspects at two locations in a Kurdish area as the suspects tried to cross the Iraqi border.

June 25: *Fars* reported that three border guards died in a clash with a “terrorist group” in Mirjaveh in Sistan and Baluchistan Province near the Pakistani border during the night. Revolutionary Guard forces killed three of the gunmen and wounded an unspecified number of others. *Fars* reported that others escaped into Pakistan.

July 20: *Fars* reported that gunmen killed ten border guards during the night in Marivan, a Kurdish town near the Iraqi border. *Fars* said several “bandits and counterrevolutionary terrorists” were killed and others injured.

August 31: *Fars* reported that the Revolutionary Guard killed four members of a terrorist group “linked to the global arrogance” and wounded three others in a clash near the Saravan border point with Pakistan. A Guard member was lightly wounded in Sistan-Baluchistan Province.

September 7: The semi-official *Tasnim* news agency reported that Revolutionary Guards killed six Kurdish militants and wounded several others in western Iran near the border with Iraq. The Guard blamed the Party of Free Life of Kurdistan for a July 20 attack that killed ten Iranian border guards in the Kurdish town of Marivan.

September 22: *IRNA*, *CNN*, and *AP* reported that four gunmen in military uniforms fired on a riser where Iranian officials were watching a military parade on Quds (Jerusalem) Boulevard in Ahvaz in Khuzestan Province, killing 25, including civilians and eight soldiers, and wounding 60–70, some critically. Twelve of the dead were from Ahvaz; the rest from elsewhere in Khuzestan. A woman and a child were among the wounded. The next day, Mohammad Taha, 4, died of his wounds. *MEHR* quoted Iranian armed forces spokesman Brigadier General Abolfazl Shekarch as saying, “Terrorists began shooting from a long distance while inside the park, at the armed forces as well as civilians watching the parade.” Governor of Khuzestan Gholam-Reza Shariati said that “The terrorists disguised as Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) and Basiji (volunteer) forces opened fire to the authority and people from behind the stand during the parade.” Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif charged that, “Terrorists recruited, trained, armed and paid by a foreign regime have attacked Ahvaz. Children and journals among casualties.... Iran holds regional terror sponsors and their US masters accountable for such attacks.” Iran’s Revolutionary Guard Corps blamed minority Arab separatists and accused Saudi Arabia of funding the attackers. State television claimed that Sunni “takfiri terrorists” were responsible. A regional Guard commander in Khuzestan, Hassan Shahvarpour, said three gunmen were killed and a fourth was detained. The separatist Patriotic Arab Democratic Movement in Ahwaz claimed responsibility.

IRGC spokesman Ramezan Sharif said “The individuals who fired at the people and the armed forces during the parade are connected to the al-Ahvaziya group which is fed by Saudi Arabia.” The parade marked the 30th anniversary of the end of the eight-year war with Iraq that started in September 1980 and ended in August 1988. Yacoub Hor al-Tostari, a spokesman for the Arab Struggle Movement for the Liberation of Ahvaz, told *AP* that his group wants that area of southwest Iran to be its own nation. ISIS also claimed credit, saying it was targeting Iranian President Hassan Rouhani (who was in Tehran giving a speech at the time of the attack). On September 23, Iran summoned diplomats from the UK, Denmark and the Netherlands over allegedly harboring “members of the terrorist group” that launched the attack.

Among the dead was Hossein Monjazi, 54, a disabled war veteran and Revolutionary Guard member who had lost a leg and a hand in the Iraq-Iran war of the 1980s. He was in a wheelchair watching the parade was unable to find shelter from the gunfire.

AP later reported that all four of the attackers were killed.

The *Long War Journal* reported on September 26, 2018, that ISIS spokesman Abul-Hasan al-Muhajir released a short message claiming credit, noting that a “group of the men of the Khilafah and the guardians of the creed in the land of Persia have pounced in defense of their religion, acting to deter and suppress their enemy and to fulfill the Islamic State’s promise to all those who have the blood of Ahlus-Sunnah [Sunnis] on their hands.... They breached one of the towers of the Majusi state of Iran, by Allah’s grace and favor, and brought the sword of truth down on the necks of the lowly rabble of the Iranian state, as well as its revolutionary guard, as they were parading and showing their arrogance, surrounded by their security forces in the heart of their territory in the land of Ahvaz.... They killed and massacred their soldiers... left the Majusi leaders and shrine servants dumbfounded.... They left them scattered, broke the awe of their revolutionary guard, which is feared by America and the governments in the region, and forced the Majusi leadership to randomly throw accusations as they stubbornly refused to state the plain truth, to the point that they became a laughing stock being mocked by the East and the West.” Iranians “still haven’t awoken from the horrific shock, and with Allah’s permission, it will not be the last.... The sons of the Khilafah, with success granted by Allah, have demonstrated just how weak and fragile the security of the Majusi state of Iran is, for it is weaker than the home of a spider, and with Allah’s ability and strength, what’s coming will be worse and more bitter. He called on “the soldiers of the Khilafah and the carriers of the banner, specifically in Barakah in Sham Wilayah [Syria province], and on all of the Islamic State’s fronts in general” to remain “firm and strong.”

At 2 a.m. on October 1, the Iranian Revolutionary Guard fired six medium-range missiles from Kermanshah in western Iran at Sunni Islamic extremist hideouts in eastern Syria, striking east of the Euphrates River and killing or wounding several “takfiri terrorists,” a term it uses to refer to ISIS.

IRNA reported in mid-October 2018 that authorities detained a member of the military for the attack on a military parade in Ahvaz that killed 24 people. Judiciary spokesman Gholamhossin Mohseni Ejehi said prosecutors had investigated eleven other military personnel regarding the case. *The Hill* and *Reuters* reported on October 17, 2018, that Iran’s

Revolutionary Guard said on October 16 that it had killed Abu Zaha, the alleged “mastermind” behind the attack, and four other people in Iraq. One state news outlet claimed Zaha belonged to ISIS.

October 13: *Fars* reported that members of the Iranian intelligence service killed two Kurdish separatists in a clash in Kermanshah, thereby dismantling a “separatist terrorist team.” The ministry said ammunition and documents were uncovered from their house, indicating the militants were supported by some Arab countries. Iran had earlier accused the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia of supporting separatists and that Iranian Kurdish armed groups had found safe havens in Iraq’s northern Kurdish region.

October 16: Before dawn, gunmen abducted 14 members of a border security force near the Loukdan border crossing point in southeastern Sistan and Baluchistan Province near the Pakistan border. AP reported that the hostages included members of the Revolutionary Guard’s intelligence department, seven members of the Basij force, a volunteer wing of the Guard, and regular Iranian border guards. No one claimed credit. The Guard blamed “treason committed by infiltrators” and a “terrorist group guided and supported by foreign intelligence services.” The Guard claimed that the attackers were “hired by some evil, reactionary and terrorist-training regional countries,” perhaps referring to Saudi Arabia and its Gulf Arab allies. Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi said that security forces were trying to trace eleven abducted members of Iran’s border force. Iranian media blamed the al-Qaeda-linked Jaish al-Adl. On November 15, 2018, AP and *Fars* reported that five of the abducted 12 border guards had been released. Iran’s Revolutionary Guard chief General Mohammad Ali Jafari said they were “handed over to the Pakistani government.” On November 22, the Revolutionary Guard said on its website, Sepahnews.com, that the five had returned home.

November 27: *Tasnim* reported that Sunni cleric Abdolghafour Jamalzai, who had worked to reconcile Sunnis and Shi’ites, was shot in the back with a hunting rifle in the morning outside of a mosque in the town of Gorgan. No group claimed responsibility for the assassination.

December 6: *Tasnim News Agency* reported that a suicide car bomber hit a police headquarters in Chabahar, killing two police officers and wounding 42. Provincial official Rahmdel Bameri said that police officers blocked the vehicle from getting to the building and shot at the driver, who then set off his explosives. No one claimed credit. Ansar al-Furqan, a Sunni jihadi group, claimed credit. *Fars* reported on December 8 that Ali Movahedirad, provincial prosecutor, announced the arrest of four

suspects in several cities in Sistan and Baluchistan Province.

Iraq

January 13: A suicide bomber hit a police checkpoint on a busy street in a northern Baghdad neighborhood, killing ten and wounding ten, including several policemen. ISIS later claimed credit.

January 15: Two suicide bombers hit a busy street market in central Baghdad, killing 38 people and injuring 105. ISIS claimed credit three days later. The first bomb went off at Tayaran Square at 7 a.m.; the second followed ten minutes later. Among the injured was Munthir Falah, a father of three, who sells secondhand clothes at the street market, who sustained shrapnel injuries to his chest and right leg.

January 21: The Supreme Judicial Council sentenced a German woman of Moroccan origin to death for joining ISIS. She traveled from Germany to Syria and then to Iraq with her two daughters, who later married into ISIS. She was found guilty of "offering logistic support and helping the terrorist group to carry out criminal acts," and "taking part in attacks against security forces."

February 18: *AP* and *CNN* reported that ISIS gunmen in army uniforms attacked several checkpoints of the Shi'ite-led Popular Mobilization Units militia on a highway near Hawija during the night, killing 27, eleven of them from Basra. Among the dead was Ismail Mahmoud, 24.

March 24: ISIS said it kidnapped and killed ten policemen. The group posted online photos of eight men in civilian clothing on their knees in an open area with terrorists pointing rifles at their backs. Another picture showed two men flanked by terrorists with knives. The government said the terrorists were wearing government-sanctioned paramilitary forces uniforms. The slain troops were on leave when ISIS stopped their SUV taxi at a checkpoint on a highway between Kirkuk and Salaheddin Provinces.

April 12: *AFP* reported that terrorists set off two bombs as a funeral procession was entering a cemetery near Sharqat in Salaheddin Province, killing 25 people and wounding 18, four critically. The procession was mourning five members of Hashed al-Shaabi paramilitary units killed by jihadis the previous night.

April 18: The *Australian Broadcasting Corporation* reported that Australian Defense Minister Marise Payne confirmed that ISIS group commander Tarek Khayat, a Lebanese citizen, and his Australian relative Ahmed Merhi were detained earlier in the year in Iraq. Khayat was suspected of masterminding a plot to blow up an airline flight from Sydney. Aus-

tralian police alleged that Merhi communicated with a homegrown IS cell behind several Sydney plots, including the 2015 fatal shooting of a police accountant outside the state police headquarters. Australian police claimed that Khayat directed his Sydney-based brothers, Khaled and Mahmoud Khayat, to blow up an Etihad Airways flight from Sydney to Dubai on July 15, 2017, with circa 400 passengers and crew on board. The plot was foiled by luck by an Etihad check-in officer at Sydney Airport. Merhi was allegedly the first Australian ISIS fighter to be caught in Iraq.

April 24: Raad Hamoudi, head of Iraq's National Olympic Committee, said gunmen in civilian cars kidnapped his deputy, Bashar Mustafa, a Kurd who heads Iraq's Boxing Federation, while traveling from Karbala to Baghdad in the afternoon.

May 1: During the night, gunmen in two speeding cars displaying the ISIS flag fired on civilians near Tarmiyah, killing eight people and wounding 13. The casualties included workers who were putting up election campaign posters for candidates running for parliament.

May 9: Iraqi state television, *Reuters*, and the *New York Times* announced the arrest of five senior ISIS members, two Syrians and three Iraqis, including Ismail al-Ithawi, alias Abu Zaid al-Iraqi, a top aide to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi who was responsible for financial, religious and security portfolios across the group's territory in Iraq and Syria. The Prime Minister's spokesman, Saad al-Hadithi, said Ithawi provided banking information to Iraqi and American interrogators that helped cut off valuable sources of funding for ISIS. *AP* reported that in February 2018, Turkish officers arrested al-Ithawi in Turkey, based on a tip from Iraqi intelligence. He was then extradited to Iraq. Al-Ithawi provided banking information and revealed the coded communications ISIS used on the messaging app *Telegram*. In late April, investigators persuaded Ithawi to contact key members of ISIS in Syria and lure them across the border to Iraq, where they were arrested. Among them was Syrian Saddam al-Jamal, head of ISIS territory in Syria's Deir al-Zour Province. A Syrian and two Iraqis were senior field commanders.

May 24: *NPR* and *AP* reported that a suicide bomber being stalked by police set off his explosives at the entrance to a park in the Shoala neighborhood of Baghdad, killing seven and wounding 16. ISIS was suspected.

June 2: Ammar Hekmat, deputy governor of Salahuddin Province, said during the morning ISIS attacked al-Farahatayah village, killing a dozen members of the same family.

June 3: An Iraqi court sentenced French woman Melina Boughedir, 28, to life in prison for ISIS

membership. Boughedir was initially sentenced to six months in jail for entering the country illegally. Prosecutors introduced new evidence, including pictures of her French husband posing with ISIS fighters. She was detained in Mosul in 2017. She appeared in court with her daughter, 2, and three defense lawyers.

June 6: Two bombs exploded inside a mosque in Baghdad's Sadr City district, killing 18 worshippers, including two children, wounding 38, and destroying or damaging 20 homes. A government statement said the explosions occurred at a weapons depot inside the mosque.

June 8: In the night, three bombs exploded in three different places in Kirkuk, killing a woman and wounding 18 others. Two of them did not inflict any casualties. The explosion in al-Quds Street in central Kirkuk caused the casualties. ISIS was suspected.

June 12: On June 18, 2018, *Military Times* reported that Operation Inherent Resolve announced that coalition members on June 12 destroyed an ISIS drug cache with a black market value of \$1.4 million. A press release from OIR indicated, "Despite [ISIS'] facade of Islamic purity, its criminal terrorists are known drug users and traffickers.... The cache included more than 300,000 pills of Captagon, an illegal drug frequently trafficked and used by [ISIS] members." Captagon is a highly addictive amphetamine-based drug that keeps its user awake and alert for long periods of time and can help dull pain. Its main ingredient is fenethylline, a combination of amphetamine and theophylline. It is sometimes called the "Jihadi pill."

June 16: On June 23, 2018, *AP* reported that ISIS claimed to have kidnapped 17 policemen and members of Iraq's Popular Mobilization Forces, which are predominantly pro-government Shi'ite militias. ISIS released a hostage video on June 23 demanding the release of all Sunni women prisoners from Iraqi jails within three days or it would execute six Iraqi policemen and militiamen.

June 28: Authorities hanged 12 prisoners convicted on terror charges after they had exhausted all possibilities for appeal.

July 23: At 7 a.m., three gunmen stormed the governorate building in Irbil in the northern Kurdish region, opening fire and killing an employee and wounding a policeman before they were gunned down.

August 6: *Reuters* reported that Baghdad's Central Criminal Court sentenced French citizen Lahcen Ammar Gueboudj, in his 50s, and German woman Nadia Rainer Hermann, 22, to life in prison for belonging to ISIS. Gueboudj claimed that he came to the region to retrieve his son, who had joined ISIS

and had been living in Raqqa, Syria. Hermann was sentenced in January 2018 to one year in jail for entering Iraq illegally. She admitted to the judge that she had received a salary of 50,000 Iraqi dinars (\$42) per month.

August 16: *CNN* reported that Rafeef al-Yaseri, known as the "Barbie of Iraq," was killed inside her Baghdad home. She was a plastic surgeon and organized national programs specializing in medical affairs for women. A week later, Rasha al-Hassan, owner and manager of Viola Beauty Center in Baghdad, was found dead inside her home.

August 29: An ISIS suicide car bomber hit a checkpoint managed by the Iraqi army and the Popular Mobilization Forces at the southern entrance al-Qaim, killing four security forces and three civilians.

The Criminal Court of Anbar Province, which includes al-Qaim, sentenced three men to death by hanging for carrying out terrorist attacks in the province. Judge Abdelsattar Bayarqadar, spokesman for Iraq's Supreme Judicial Council, said the trio were ISIS members.

September 7: Three mortar shells landed in an abandoned lot inside Baghdad's heavily fortified Green Zone after midnight. No one claimed credit.

Hundreds of protesters torched the Iranian consulate in Basra and attacked offices belonging to Iranian-backed militias. 18090701

September 8: At 8 a.m., gunmen fired three Katyusha rockets at Basra airport, which also houses the U.S. consulate. No casualties were reported. No one claimed credit. 18090801

The *Rudaw* satellite news channel and *CNN* reported that twelve people, including three children and three women, were killed and 50 were wounded in a missile attack on a Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan base in Koya. The secretary-general of the PDKI separatist group, Mustafa Mawludi, and his predecessor, Khalid Azizi, were injured in the attack. The PDKI said on *Twitter* that Iran used "long-range missiles in a coordinated attack on PDKI's bases and adjacent refugee camps."

Iranian media reported that authorities hanged three Kurdish prisoners after years in prison.

September 12: The Joint Operations Command announced that a car bomb exploded outside a restaurant on a highway near Beiji, killing six people. Health Ministry spokesman Saif al-Badr said 42 were wounded. No group claimed credit.

September 14: *NPR* reported that rockets fired at the U.S. Consulate in Basra missed.

September 19: An Iraqi court sentenced to death by hanging Ismail al-Ithawi, alias Abu Zaid al-Iraqi, ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi's aide responsible for religious edicts, finances and designing the ed-

educational curriculum. He was part of al-Baghdadi's inner circle and was thought to be ISIS's only operative in custody to have seen Baghdadi alive in 2017. He was captured in a joint operation by Iraqi, American and Turkish intelligence agencies in February 2018 and had been providing information to Iraqi authorities, including coordinates for airstrikes on targets in Syria, according to Iraqi officials. A judge said that Ithawi was represented by a public defender.

September 25: In the morning, masked gunmen killed human rights activist and mother of four Soad al-Ali, 46, who had been involved in organizing protests demanding better services in Basra, outside a supermarket in central Basra's Abbasiya district. The gunmen fled after shooting at her and her husband, wounding him, as they were getting into their car. No one claimed credit.

September 27: CNN reported that two gunmen on motorcycles assassinated Iraqi social media star and model Tara Fares Chamoun, former Miss Baghdad, and first runner-up for Miss Iraq, in Baghdad's Camp Sarah neighborhood. The Christian, 22, whose father was Iraqi and mother Lebanese, was inside a vehicle. She lived in Erbil. She had nearly three million *Instagram* followers.

October 6: Police say two bombs exploded in former ISIS strongholds, killing one person and wounding at least 16. A bomb went off in a parked car in Fallujah, wounding two security men, three civilians and causing material damage. A roadside bomb hit a bus carrying employees of the al-Siniya oil refinery in the Beiji area in Salahuddin Province on the Beiji highway north of Baghdad, killing one employee and wounding eleven others.

October 23: A bomb went off on a street in the market in Qarraya in Ninevah Province, south of Mosul, killing six people, including two soldiers, and wounding 40 people. No one claimed credit.

October 25: The Paris-based International Federation for Human Rights announced that foreign fighters, including many Europeans, took a leading role in carrying out ISIS atrocities against minority Yazidis, citing testimony and documentation from survivors of an organized system of killing and rape devised by ISIS's Iraqi hierarchy. The IFHR deemed the actions genocide and crimes against humanity, and called for ISIS members to be prosecuted as war criminals.

November 4: During evening rush hour, four bombs went off in Shi'ite districts around Baghdad, including Sadr City and Kadhimiya, killing four people, including two inside commuter minivans, and wounding twenty. ISIS claimed credit.

November 6: CNN reported that the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) and the UN

Human Rights Officer (OHCHR) announced the discovery in the northern and western Iraqi provinces of Nineveh, Kirkuk, Salah al-Din and Anbar of 202 mass graves of up to 12,000 bodies of ISIS victims, and expected to find more in the future. The smallest grave site, in west Mosul, contained eight corpses; the largest, in the Khasfa sinkhole south of Mosul, could contain 4,000 bodies. Victims included women, children, elderly people and those with disabilities, members of Iraq's armed forces, police and some foreign workers.

November 8: A car bomb exploded in front of a restaurant in west Mosul during the evening, killing four people and wounding nine others.

November 17: During the night, gunmen killed Muslim cleric Wissam al-Ghrawi outside his home after he suggested that protesters should take up arms over poor public services in Basra. He was a prominent figure in demonstrations demanding clean water and reliable electricity.

Demonstrators set fire to the Iranian consulate and attacked the headquarters of the various Iran-backed militias and parties that operate with impunity in Basra.

November 18: A car bomb went off in a commercial street in Tikrit, killing five and wounding 16. ISIS was suspected.

December 13: Turkey's Defense Ministry announced it conducted airstrikes against Kurdish rebel targets in Iraq's Sinjar and Mount Karajak regions. *Anadolu* reported that jets targeted shelters, caves, tunnels and depots used by the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), which sent fighters to Sinjar to help Iraqi Kurds fight ISIS there.

December 21: AP reported that ISIS had snuck out of the former caliphate some \$400 million in Western and Iraqi currency and gold coins, nearly all of it stolen from banks or acquired through criminal enterprises. ISIS leaders laundered tens of millions of dollars by investing in legitimate businesses, including real estate companies, hotels, a car wash, and automobile dealerships, throughout the Middle East during 2018. In 2015, the caliphate's cumulative holdings and earnings totaled \$6 billion.

Israel

January 18: Before dawn, police and army forces raided a West Bank home in Jenin and killed in a firefight Palestinian Ahmed Jarrar, an activist in the Islamic militant group Hamas, who was wanted for the drive-by killing of Rabbi Raziël Shevah, 35, who was driving in Havat Gilad, an Israeli settlement outpost on the West Bank the previous week. Two Israeli officers were hurt, one seriously, in the Jenin clash. Police arrested a second male suspect. Jarrar's

relatives said Israeli bulldozers and rockets demolished three homes belonging to the extended family and damaged a fourth. Hamas called Jarrar a “hero who was killed in direct combat.”

February 17: A bomb attached to a Palestinian flag placed near the border with Gaza during protests wounded four soldiers, two seriously. Fatah’s Popular Resistance Committees later claimed credit. In response, a tank struck an Islamic Jihad observation post in the southern Gaza Strip and Israeli airstrikes hit 18 targets, including weapon-manufacturing sites and training infrastructures of Hamas, during the night. Following the airstrikes, gunmen fired a rocket from Gaza; it hit the roof of a safe room in a home in Sha’ar Ha-Negev, but did not explode.

March 4: In the morning, a motorist drove a speeding Jeep into a policeman and two soldiers, wounding all three in a suspected attack in Acre. The Jeep then crashed into another car. A bystander shot at the vehicle and wounded the driver, who was arrested.

March 18: Police shot to death a Palestinian from the West Bank city of Nablus who stabbed an Israeli in Jerusalem’s Old City, fatally wounding him.

March 27: The Israeli military spotted footprints along its security fence with Gaza. Follow-up searches netted three Palestinians from Gaza who snuck 18 miles into Israel carrying knives and grenades.

March 29: The military detained two Palestinians from Gaza who snuck into Israel carrying knives.

April 11: A bomb placed along the border fence area during protests exploded near an Israeli bulldozer, causing no injuries. The Israeli military struck several Hamas targets in Gaza.

June 28: A Tel Aviv district court convicted an Israeli Jewish man from southern Israel for making a string of bomb threats targeting Jewish community centers in the United States in 2017. He was a teen when he committed the crimes. He holds dual Israeli and American citizenship. Defense attorneys claimed he was mentally ill and unfit to stand trial.

July 13: An Israeli officer was moderately wounded by a grenade thrown at him.

August 1: Israeli aircraft killed seven militants carrying assault rifles and explosive belts who had entered the Israeli-held Golan Heights from Syria. During the night, the group approached a security fence on Israel’s side of the border. Israel’s military identified the gunmen as ISIS members, in a rare attempt by the group to infiltrate Israel. Lt. Col. Jonathan Conricus, an Israeli military spokesman, noted that the seven fighters were wearing military fatigues and moved in formation.

September 18: Police shot and killed a Palestinian

who attacked a Jewish worshipper with a sharp object near Jerusalem’s Old City and then charged at them during the evening. The attack occurred on Yom Kippur.

October 17: At 4 a.m., a rocket fired from Gaza destroyed a residential home and damaged parked cars and neighboring structures in Beersheba. The Magen David Adom medical service said a woman and her three children were treated for shock. Two other Beersheba residents were injured during the panic to seek cover. Another rocket from Gaza landed in the sea, causing no injuries. The Israeli military responded by attacking 20 Hamas sites, including offensive tunnels, weapon workshops and naval shafts, in Gaza after days of rising tensions. The Gaza Health Ministry said a 25-year-old militant was killed and three other people were wounded. The “joint coordination room of resistance factions,” which includes Hamas, Islamic Jihad and other groups, issued a statement distancing themselves from the rocket fire, saying, “We reject all irresponsible attempts that try to change the direction and sabotage the Egyptian efforts, including the overnight firing of the rocket. At the same time, we emphasize we are ready to confront the Israeli aggression.”

November 14: *AFP* reported that during the night, a man wielding a knife entered an Israeli border police base in east Jerusalem, sparking a fight in which four officers were wounded. The attacker was seriously wounded. The assailant climbed a fence around the base between the Palestinian neighborhood of Jabel Mukabar and the settler district of Armon Hanatziv.

November 30: A Jordanian man seriously wounded two Israeli port workers when he attacked them with a hammer in the Red Sea resort of Eilat. Police detained him for questioning. Police said the “main line of investigation is that the motive was a terrorist attack.” It was the suspect’s first day working in Eilat through a local employment company. 18113001

December 13: *Haaretz* reported that in the morning, Israeli police officers shot to death a Palestinian man after a knife attack in Jerusalem’s Old City.

Jordan

January 8: The state news agency *Petra* reported that the national intelligence service arrested 17 people, seized weapons, and thwarted a “massive” scheme of simultaneous attacks in November 2017 on military installations, shopping centers, media organizations, moderate clerics and other targets by a cell linked to ISIS. The cell planned to rob banks and steal cars in Ruseifa and Zarqa.

July 31–August 1: *Al-Jazeera* and *Petra* reported

that during a 20-hour gun battle, Jordanian Army forces killed several ISIS fighters trying to cross the border from Syria.

August 11: The *USA Times* of the KVH Media Group on August 12, 2018, reported that a bomb exploded under a patrol car at a music festival near Amman, killing a member of the country's security forces and injuring six other people.

Lebanon

January 14: A 500-gram bomb packed with ball bearings and planted under the seat of a car exploded in Sidon, wounding the owner, Mohammed Hamdan, a Palestinian member of Hamas, in the leg as he was entering the car. Hamas blamed Israel.

April 24: Internal Security Forces police announced the detention in Zgharta earlier in the month of a Syrian citizen who was a military commander with ISIS in central Syria's Homs Province and had entered Lebanon illegally. He was born in 1982. He was involved in the capture of Palmyra.

Police announced that Hizballah operative Bilal Hassan was killed when a bomb he was holding went off in his home in Sidon. Lebanon's private *al-Jadeed* TV reported that Hassan was holding a grenade cartridge for a rocket-propelled-grenade launcher. The state-run *National News Agency* said a "strange object" exploded in his house.

September 27: The General Security Directorate detained a Palestinian refugee, 27, suspected of being a member of ISIS who had allegedly planned attacks in Lebanon and abroad. The service said he had confessed to being in contact with ISIS operatives in Syria who had instructed him to make bombs and prepare poison. It said he had readied the unspecified poison, aided by an unnamed person residing abroad but who had visited Lebanon seeking to carry out two operations. One would poison water supplied to the Lebanese military in tanker trucks; the second would taint food delivered to parties attended by Lebanese living abroad.

December 10: Interior Minister Nouhad Mashnouk announced that police discovered and thwarted planned ISIS bombings of places of worship, gatherings of Christians and military posts. The bombs were smuggled in from Syria's Idlib Province in buckets of cheese. The terrorists planned to conduct the attacks during Lebanon's parliamentary elections in May. Police intelligence had monitored the would-be attackers for ten months through a Syrian informer in Lebanon.

December 16: The Israeli military found a fourth Hizballah attack tunnel dug from Lebanon to carry out attacks against Israelis.

Libya

January 23: During the evening, two bombs went off at a Benghazi mosque in the Salmani residential neighborhood, killing 33 and wounding 47. The first bomb hit at 8:20 p.m. The second bomb went off at 8:50 p.m., and was aimed at first responders. No one claimed credit.

February 9: Two bombs exploded at the Saad Ibn Ibada mosque in Benghazi's Berka district, killing two people and wounding 75. The bombs were planted in separate rooms inside the mosque.

March 24: *Military Times* reported on March 28, 2018, that U.S. Africa Command announced that an airstrike in Ubari on March 24 killed two al-Qaeda members, including high-ranking commander Musa Abu Dawud, who had been on the U.S. State Department's Specially Designated Global Terrorist list since May 2016. He had been involved in terrorism since the early 1990s, and was a senior AQIM member. Since 2012, he had been the commander of AQIM's southern zone. He was responsible for multiple terrorist attacks, including a February 2013 attack on the military barracks in Khenchela, Algeria, and a July 2013 attack on a Tunisian military patrol in the Mount Chaambi area.

March 25: U.S. Africa Command said an airstrike near Ubari killed two militants and no civilians.

March 28: During the night, gunmen broke into the home of Tripoli mayor Abdul-Raouf Hassan Bitlmal and kidnapped him. The municipality for central Tripoli suspended operations in protest.

March 30: An IS-Libya affiliate suicide bomber hit a checkpoint at the eastern gates of Ajdabiya, killing six people, including several members of one family, and injuring five soldiers.

April 7: Gunmen kidnapped the mayor of a town south of Tripoli.

May 2: A suicide bomber blew himself up inside Libya's election commission building in central Tripoli and other terrorists set fire to it, killing 14 people and injuring seven. No one claimed credit.

May 8: Ali al-Magrahi, head of the Greater Sirte Operation Room affiliated with the Libya National Army, said a jihadi suicide vehicle bomber crashed into an army checkpoint in Sirte, killing three people. Security forces found two other suicide car bombs. Both fled, then set off their explosives. One fired on two civilians, killing them.

May 22: A suicide car bomber killed two security personnel and wounded two people at a checkpoint at the southern entrance of Ajdabiya, west of Benghazi. IS claimed credit. IS gunmen attacked another checkpoint in Awjila and kidnapped a police officer.

May 25: In the morning, a car bomb went off on the commercial Abdel-Nasser Street full of people behind Benghazi's largest hotel, Tibesti, killing seven people, including a girl, and wounding 20. No one claimed credit.

June 1: The United Nations announced that fighting between the self-styled Libyan National Army and militants killed 17 civilians, including two children, in Derna.

June 13: *Military Times* reported on June 16, 2018, that a U.S. Africa Command air strike killed a terrorist 50 miles south of Bani Walid.

June 15: *Deutsche Welle* reported that rebels from the Benghazi Defense Brigades (BDB) attacked Libya's two largest oil terminals, the al-Sidra reserve and Ra's Lanuf refinery, which have been held by strongman Khalifa Hifter and his self-proclaimed Libyan National Army (LNA). Libya's National Oil Corporation (NOC) expected production to drop by 240,000 barrels per day.

June 17: The National Oil Corporations said an armed group commanded by Ibrahim Jadhraan and opposed to Libya's self-styled national army had attacked key oil port terminals in Ras Lanuf and Es Sidr, "significantly" damaging at least one storage tank.

July 6: The authority managing the Great Man-Made River project said gunmen kidnapped three Filipino nationals and one South Korean working as engineers and technicians on a water project south of Tripoli. Three Libyan workers were kidnapped but soon released. 18070601

July 7: The authority managing the Great Man-Made River project said gunmen attacked a project area in southeastern Libya, killing two Libyan workers and kidnapping two others.

July 14: Gunmen kidnapped four National Oil Corporation staff members working at Station 186 of the Sharara field. Two were soon released. It was not clear if foreigners were among the hostages. NOC runs the Sharara field in partnership with a consortium that includes Total, Repsol, Statoil, and OMV.

July 24: Security official Ahmed al-Gabieli said gunmen linked to IS killed two policemen at a checkpoint in el-Agheila in the morning. He said they "slit a police officer's throat" and killed another in a shootout with security forces. The group later attacked a police station, raised the ISIS black flag atop the building, and burned several police and ambulance vehicles. Four people were reported missing.

July 30: Sudanese security and intelligence agency Colonel Mohamed Hamed said that security agencies in a special operation had freed five Egyptian

soldiers, including an officer, who were abducted by an armed Libyan group in a remote area where the three countries meet. 18073001

August 23: Miftah Hamadi, mayor of Zliten, said gunmen believed linked to ISIS attacked a checkpoint in the west, killing four people, including security forces, and wounded four, two critically. Authorities later killed fleeing gunmen.

September 11: Missiles were fired at Tripoli, including Mitiga International Airport, the city's only functioning airport, causing no casualties.

The Islamic State claimed responsibility for an attack on the headquarters of Libya's national oil company in Tripoli that killed two people and wounded ten.

October 8: The Libyan National Army militia announced that it had captured former Egyptian army officer Hesham el-Eshmawi, variant el-Ashmawi, 40, a prominent terrorist wanted in Egypt, in Derna, a jihadi stronghold. Eshmawi left active service in 2011, went to Syria in 2013, and was suspected of masterminding attacks in Egypt from Libya. He was believed to have been behind a 2013 assassination attempt against Egypt's then-Interior Minister Mohammed Ibrahim and several deadly ambushes of security forces in Egypt's Western Desert, near the Libyan border. Egyptian military officials said he was a suspect in the July 11, 2015, bombing outside the Italian Consulate in Cairo, which killed a bystander. He was a suspect in the 2015 killing of Egypt's chief prosecutor. He was sentenced to death in absentia following his conviction on terrorism charges. While in Libya, el-Eshmawi created al-Mourabitoun, a group Cairo blames for most of the Western Desert attacks, including a 2017 ambush that killed nearly 30 Christian pilgrims en route to a remote monastery. He was believed to have helped found Ansar Beit al-Maqdis, now known as Welayet Sinai (Sinai Province). In a 2015 audio, he pledged allegiance to al-Qaeda, vice ISIS. Egyptian investigators arrived in Libya on October 9, 2018, to question Eshmawi. *AP* credited months of intelligence cooperation between Egypt and the LNA for his capture. On October 11, Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi called for extradition.

October 11: Libyan authorities found a mass grave believed to contain the bodies of 75 Islamic State fighters near Sirte. A resident reported the grave a month earlier on his farm in al-Daheir district.

October 28: At 1 a.m., suspected Islamic State gunmen attacked al-Fuqaha in central Libya, killing four people, including the mayor's son and two policemen, and torching the local police station and two houses. A dozen people, including an 80-year-old man, were missing and presumed abducted by the

terrorists. Libyan National Army militia chased the attackers into the desert. The U.N. mission to Libya said on December 10, 2018, that IS terrorists killed six people in the attack.

November 20: Eight gunmen attacked a substation of the National Oil Corporation's southwestern Sharara oilfield. No employees were hurt. Production was unaffected. The attackers stole three company vehicles and mobile phones. Management of the subsidiary running the site, Akakus, and security teams and regional authorities were looking for the perpetrators.

November 23: Gunmen in pickup trucks killed five people, including police and civilians, and kidnapped several people in an attack on a police station in Tazirbu. Mahmoud Abu Shumo, a doctor at a local hospital, said it bore the hallmarks of the Islamic State. The next day, the United Nations said eight civilians were killed, nine wounded, three abducted and nine still missing and believed to be kidnapped.

December 25: A suicide bomber hit the entrance of the Foreign Ministry in Tripoli, killing three people, including a prominent militia leader, and wounding ten. Guards shot and killed a second would-be suicide bomber. The Islamic State's *Amaq* news service claimed credit, saying three terrorists infiltrated the area and fired on Foreign Ministry workers.

December 31: Libyan National Army spokesman Ahmed al-Mesmari said LNA forces freed 19 people who were kidnapped by Islamic State terrorists during attacks in central Libya. Gun battles broke out between LNA forces, led by Field Marshal Khalifa Hifter, and IS gunmen in Ghadwua village, 43 miles from Sabha. A military official said at least 21 people were kidnapped from al-Fuqaha and Tazerbu during the month; two of them escaped and reported the locations of the others. The kidnappers were holding the remaining 19 people in containers on farmland. A soldier died in the clashes.

Morocco

April 25: *AP* ran a profile on Gitmo alum Younous Chekkouri, 50, who complained of nightmares, flashbacks and insomnia. He took pills for anxiety, and was unemployed three years after his 2015 release. He was held at Gitmo for 14 years, accused of being a senior al-Qaeda member and co-founder of a Moroccan Islamist militant group, although he was never formally charged with a crime or faced trial. Upon arrival in Morocco, he was jailed for allegedly forming an extremist militant group. He was sentenced to five years in prison but was released on bail five months later. In February 2018, a Mo-

roccan appeals court acquitted him of all charges. He was in Afghanistan on 9/11 with his Algerian wife, Abla, who divorced him after his arrival in Morocco. He was captured in Pakistan. In Morocco, he was represented by attorney Khalid Idrissi. He remarried and had a daughter, Fatima Zahra.

October 15: Morocco's official MAP news agency reported that the Justice Ministry announced that it would turn French prisoner Thomas Gallay, who was convicted of terrorism charges, to France to serve the remainder of his four-year sentence in France. The IT engineer was arrested during anti-terrorism raids in February 2016. He was found guilty of giving 70 euros (\$74) to two Moroccan members of an extremist cell. In 2017, a Moroccan appeals court upheld the conviction, dismissing the argument that Allay could not read or understand the confession written in Arabic he signed. The court reduced his sentence from six years to four.

December 17: *The Telegraph* reported that the bodies of Louisa Vesterager Jespersen, 24, from Denmark, and Maren Ueland, 28, a woman from Norway, were found in a remote area of the High Atlas Mountains. Their necks had been stabbed. They had been studying in Norway to become tour guides. The bodies were found six miles from Imlil, which is often the starting point for treks to Mount Toubkal, the highest peak in North Africa. The victims lived in southern Norway, where they attended university. Moroccan authorities arrested a male suspect in Marrakesh on December 18, saying that he was connected to the Islamic State. Prosecutors called it a terrorist attack. Investigators had video surveillance showing three suspects putting up a tent near the victims' tent and leaving the area after the slaying. Morocco's Central Office of Judicial Research said Moroccan authorities arrested three more suspects on December 20 in Marrakech. On December 21, Norway's National Criminal Investigation Service announced that it had been investigating a video of the killing that had been circulating on social media, observing, "There is no concrete evidence indicating the video is not real." Regarding another video in which the four suspects appear to pledge allegiance to ISIS, NCIS said that "neither Norway nor Denmark was mentioned in the video, nor was there anything specific about what action they should perform." The four said that they "cannot remain seated, witnessing the destruction caused by Crusader planes," probably referring to airstrikes in Iraq and Syria. Moroccan authorities arrested nine more male suspects on December 21. Morocco's Central Bureau of Judicial Investigations said the nine had been carrying arms and "suspicious materials" used in the manufacture of explosives. The *New York Times* reported on December 23 that the arrests were made in the regions of Mar-

rakesh, Essaouira, Sidi Bennour, Tangier and Chtouka Ait Baha. On December 26, Boubker Sabik, national security agency spokesman, said ten new suspects were arrested during the previous two days for their links with the alleged killers. He told national television 2M that the suspects randomly targeted the victims and that IS did not coordinate the murders. On December 29, the Central Bureau of Judicial Investigations said authorities in Marrakech detained a Swiss-Spanish man for suspected links to jihadis who allegedly killed two Scandinavian hikers. Counterterrorism forces alleged that he taught social media skills and archery to some suspects and was suspected of involvement in recruiting Moroccans and sub-Saharan Africans for “terrorist schemes” targeted at “foreign interests and security forces.” By that date, 20 people had been arrested. On December 30, prosecutors filed preliminary terrorism charges against 15 suspects, including forming a gang to prepare and commit terrorist acts and premeditated murder. Three suspects faced additional charges for urging the others to commit acts of terrorism. 18121701

Red Sea

April 3: Saudi-led coalition spokesman Colonel Turki al-Malki said Yemen’s Houthi rebels attacked a Saudi oil tanker in the Red Sea in international waters west of the port of Hodeida in Yemen at 1:30 p.m., causing “minor damage” to the ship. The coalition said a naval ship belonging to a member country soon intervened. State-run Saudi *al-Ekhbariya* TV showed a hole in the side of the ship but no oil leak. Al-Malki called it a “terrorist attack.” 18040301

Saudi Arabia

January 5: The Houthi rebel-run *al-Masirah Television* reported a “successful” firing with “high accuracy” of a short-range ballistic missile targeting a military camp in the southwestern Saudi city of Najran. The Saudi government’s official *Saudi Press Agency* said its air defenses had “intercepted and destroyed” the projectile, but admitted “minor damage” to the private property of a Saudi citizen due to missile parts that dispersed. The Houthis later claimed to have fired a second missile against Saudi-backed forces along Yemen’s western coast. 18010501

March 25: Houthi rebels in Yemen fired ballistic missiles toward Saudi Arabia. One missile killed a person and wounded two in Riyadh. Saudi officials said the military intercepted seven missiles. The Yemeni Houthi *al-Masirah* satellite news channel said Houthi rocket forces targeted King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh and other targets in Saudi Arabia.

April 11: State-run TV channel *al-Ekhbariya* reported that Saudi forces intercepted a ballistic missile fired by Yemen’s Shi’ite Houthi rebels at Riyadh. 18041101

April 28: The civil defense directorate said one person was killed by “shrapnel” from a ballistic missile attack by Yemen’s Houthi Shi’ite rebels. 18042801

Houthis said they had fired eight ballistic missiles at targets in Jizan. *SPA* said air defense forces intercepted four missiles and no casualties or damage were reported. 18042802

May 9: A Saudi-owned satellite channel reported that Yemeni rebels fired ballistic missiles at Riyadh. 18050901

June 24: The state-run *al-Ekhbariya* reported that the kingdom’s air defenses intercepted a ballistic missile fired over Riyadh from Yemen. No casualties were immediately reported. Houthis were blamed. 18062401

July 8: The Interior Ministry announced that during an afternoon attack at a checkpoint in al-Qassim, two gunmen, a police sergeant, and a Bangladeshi bystander were killed. A third gunman was hospitalized with injuries. The Islamic State claimed credit in the July 13 edition of its digital magazine *al-Nabaa*, saying three gunmen attacked a gathering of guards from al-Tarfiya prison before themselves being killed. 18070801

July 15: Yemeni Houthis fired a projectile into al-Aridha in Jizan Province during the night, injuring three civilians, including a 10-year old child. 18071501

September 27: The Interior Ministry announced that security forces killed three suspected Saudi militants inside a home in Qatif in Eastern Province. The Ministry said, “after having besieged the site, the security men called on the wanted to surrender. Instead, they started to intensively fire at the security men.” Three security forces were “slightly injured” in the shootout. Two of the militants had been previously wanted. The statement described the men as having been “involved in terror incidents.”

Syria

January 7: A car bomb in Idlib killed 23 people during the evening. No group claimed credit.

January 17: *Deutsche Welle* and *AP* reported that German jihadi rapper Denis Cuspert, alias Deso Dagg (“Devil’s Son”), alias Abu Talha al-Almani (The German), was again reported dead, this time in Gharanij town in Deir al-Zour Province in eastern Syria, according to the pro-ISIS *Wafa Media* propaganda news site which ran photos of his

corpse. He was wounded in 2015 by a U.S. airstrike in Syria, according to the Pentagon. *Wafa* said he was “massively injured” in Raqqa during a siege led by the U.S.-backed Syrian Democratic Forces. He had appeared in ISIS recruitment videos aimed at Germans, and was half-Ghanaian, half-German. He was born in Berlin’s Kreuzberg district. He toured with U.S. rapper DMX in 2006. In 2009, he renounced music following a car accident, converted to Islam, and joined Salafist circles. In 2012, he went to Egypt, then moved to Syria, joining the Nusra Front before shifting to ISIS in 2014. He was part of a court case against Daniela Greene, an FBI translator with a top-secret clearance, who traveled to Syria in 2014 to marry him. Upon returning to the U.S., she was sentenced to 24 months in prison. The State Department designated him a “global terrorist” in 2015.

January 27: The *New York Times* reported that female Kurdish fighter Zuluh Hemo, alias Avesta Habur, 20, threw a grenade down the turret of a tank, killing herself and two Turkish soldiers in Hemman village in the Afrin region. The Women’s Protection Units said she joined the group in 2014.

January 30: A car bomb hit a Turkish military convoy in Idlib Province, killing one civilian and wounding a Turkish soldier and another civilian. 8013001

February 3: *Interfax*, *Tass*, *RIA Novosti*, the *Washington Post* and *CNN* reported that a Russian Su-25 fighter jet was shot down by a man-portable surface-to-air MANPADS missile over an al-Nusrah/Hayat Tahrir al-Sham-controlled Saraqib area of Idlib Province. The Russian Defense Ministry said the pilot ejected but was killed in a gun battle with the terrorists on the ground. A witness told *CNN* that Free Syrian Army fighters and Jaish al-Naser shot down the jet as two jets were “striking the village of Massaran on the southern side of Saraqib.”

February 8: U.S. officials announced that the Kurdish-dominated Syrian Democratic Forces in eastern Syria in January captured El Shafee Elsheikh and Alexandra Amon Kotey, alias Abu Saleh, 35, two suspected ISIS terrorists believed to be the remaining members of a cell that held and, in some cases, executed Western hostages. Kotey was picked up on January 24 while trying to escape to Turkey. The duo grew up in the UK and were part of a cell known as the “Beatles” because of their UK accents. They were linked to British citizen Mohammed Emwazi, alias Jihadi John, who appeared in gruesome videos showing him beheading American journalists James Foley and Steven Sotloff and other prisoners. The cell kidnapped more than two dozen hostages, including American aid worker Peter Kassig. A U.S. drone strike killed Emwazi in 2015. Cell member Aine Lesley Davis was convicted of being a member

of a terrorist organization and jailed for 7½ years by a court in Silivri, Turkey, in May 2017.

ElSheikh, a former child refugee, grew up in West London after his family emigrated from Sudan to the UK, and radicalized in his 20s. He worked as a mechanic in White City in west London. The U.S. Department of State said he traveled to Syria in 2012, initially joining al-Qaeda’s Syria branch before moving on to ISIS. State said Elsheikh “was said to have earned a reputation for waterboarding, mock executions, and crucifixions while serving as an (IS) jailer.”

Kotey, with a Ghanaian and Greek Cypriot background, grew up in West London’s Paddington neighborhood and converted to Islam in his early 20s. State said, “As a guard for the cell, Kotey likely engaged in the group’s executions and exceptionally cruel torture methods, including electronic shock and waterboarding.”

A U.S. official said Kotey and ElSheikh were “guards or interpreters” for the cell. The U.S. Department of State in 2017 imposed sanctions on the two men after designating them as terrorists.

Former hostages said the Britons mistreated them—beatings and mock executions were common.

French journalist Nicolas Henin, who was held by the terrorists for ten months, said he wanted justice, not revenge, and called for a trial in the UK, not Guantanamo Bay, observing, “the worst thing we can do with the terrorist is to deprive him from his rights, because then you make a terrorist become a victim, and if you victimize someone then you just fuel his narrative and you just confirm his narrative. So everybody has a right for a fair trial and for justice.”

Diane Foley, mother of slain hostage James Foley, called for the duo to be tried and imprisoned for the rest of their lives, saying, “hopefully it protects others from this kind of crime ... their crimes are beyond imagination. They really have not done anything good in the world, so I think they need to spend the rest of their life being held.” James Foley was killed on August 19, 2014, after being held for several months.

On February 10, 2018, the *Sun* reported that British Defense Secretary Gavin Williamson said, “I don’t think they should ever set foot in this country again.” *AP* reported that the UK had stripped Elsheikh and Kotey of their citizenship, but the Home Office refused to confirm the story.

CNN reported that the duo provided information about the possible location of the remains of American hostages killed by Mohammed Emwazi in Syria.

February 11: During a Turkish military operation against the Syrian Kurdish People’s Protection Units

militia in the enclave of Afrin, a Turkish soldier died, the 31st since the operation began on January 20.

March 20: SANA reported that a rebel mortar attack during rush hour on a market in the Kashkol neighborhood of Damascus killed 44 people, including 11 pro-government fighters, and injured 35, including a boy. A woman lost her four-year-old son and her niece was wounded by shrapnel. Hospital director Mohammed Haitham al-Husseini told *al-Ikhbariya* TV that most of the casualties were women and children. The government blamed rebels in the eastern Ghouta suburbs.

March 29: Just before midnight, a roadside bomb killed two members of Operation Inherent Resolve, one American coalition soldier and one British soldier, and wounded five others in the Arab-Kurdish town of Manbij, near the Turkish border. A U.K. defense ministry spokesman said the British armed forces member, who was embedded with U.S. forces, was killed during an operation against ISIS. Mohammed Abu Adel, head of the Manbij Military Council, said the bomb went off hundreds of yards from a security headquarters that houses the council. On March 31, the Pentagon identified the U.S. service member as Master Sgt. Jonathan Dunbar, 36, of Austin, Texas, the second American killed in action in Syria. He was assigned to the headquarters of U.S. Army Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He joined the Army in 2005, and he had deployed three times to Afghanistan and Iraq. He earned three Bronze Stars.

Sgt. Matt Tonroe was a British soldier who served in the 3rd Battalion of the elite Parachute Regiment. He had deployed numerous times for operations in Afghanistan and the Middle East. 18032901

March 30: Two of the ISIS “Beatles,” Alexandra Amon Kotey and El Shafee Elsheikh, who were allegedly among four jihadi kidnap/jailers who mistreated hostages including American, British and Japanese journalists and aid workers, gave an interview to the *AP* at a security center in Kobani. They complained that Britain’s revocation of their UK citizenship denies them a fair trial. One said murdering captives was “a mistake” and could have been avoided. The duo were captured in January 2018 in eastern Syria by the Kurdish-led, U.S.-backed Syrian Democratic Forces.

Kotey said many in ISIS “would have disagreed” with beheading American journalist James Foley and others “on the grounds that there is probably more benefit in them being political prisoners. I didn’t see any benefit. It was something that was regrettable.” He blamed Western governments for not negotiating.

Elsheikh called the killings a “mistake,” as was initially threatening to kill the hostages, because

then ISIS had to go ahead with it or else “your credibility may go.” Regarding torture by ISIS, he said “you can’t prove anything.” He complained that British revocation of his citizen exposed the duo to “rendition and torture.... When you have these two guys who don’t even have any citizenship ... if we just disappear one day, where is my mom going to go and say where is my son.” Kotey added, “I found it strange that they could actually do that, revoke the citizenship of a person.... I was born in the UK. My mother was born in the UK. I have a daughter there in the UK.... I probably never left the UK more than 3 months” before coming to Syria. He suggested a trial at the International Criminal Court in The Hague in the Netherlands. “That would be the logical solution.... Unless America wants to be the big bully and say no, no.”

April 6: SANA reported that a bomb exploded near the al-Khansaa mosque in Damascus’s Barzeh neighborhood, killing one person and wounding six others.

May 9: SANA reported that three shells fired by ISIS hit the Damascus Tower and a nearby area in the city center of Damascus, killing four people and injuring 24. A fourth explosion went off in Maysat Square, destroying a minibus.

May 20: On May 24, the U.S.-supported Syrian Democratic Forces, a Kurdish group, said it captured senior French ISIS fighter Adrien Guihal, alias Adrien Lionel Kiyali, alias Abu Osama al-Faransi, on May 20, 2018, near Raqqa. He had been linked to attacks in Paris and Nice in 2015 and 2016. Guihal claimed responsibility for the July 2016 truck attack in Nice and the killings of two French police officials at their home in Magnanville. *Liberation* reported that the Muslim convert studied Arabic in Egypt and was close to Fabien Clain, another French ISIS member who claimed credit for the November 2015 attacks in Paris. The SDF said he was waiting to cross into Turkey before then traveling farther into Europe. The group said he crossed into Syria in 2015.

May 27: The Russian Defense Ministry announced that ISIS “terrorists” killed four Russian soldiers and wounded others in Deir el-Zour Province. The ministry said “two Russian military advisers, who controlled fire of the Syrian battery, died at the scene.” Five others were wounded, two of whom died in a Russian military hospital. The ministry said 43 insurgents were killed in the nighttime battle. ISIS had claimed it launched a surprise attack on May 23 on a joint Syrian and Russian forces convoy west Mayadeen, killing 15 Syrian and Russian soldiers, destroying five army trucks and armored vehicles and damaging a rocket launcher. It was not clear whether ISIS and the Russians were discussing the same event.

June 27: *Anadolu* reported that two car bombs killed six people and wounded 20 in Afrin, which is controlled by Turkish troops and allied Syrian opposition fighters. No group claimed credit. *DHA* blamed Kurdish fighters.

July 3: ISIS announced the death of Huthaifa al-Badri, the young son of Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, while fighting Syrian government forces. The group released a photo of a young boy carrying a rifle. The group said he was an elite fighter, known as an “inghimasi,” who was killed while fighting Syrian and Russia troops at a power station in Homs Province. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the most recent ISIS operations in the area were in the first two weeks of June.

July 24: *CNN* reported that two U.S. citizens who were captured by U.S.-backed Syrian Democratic Forces fighting ISIS in Syria were transferred back to the United States, where they would appear in federal courts. The Syrian Democratic Forces captured Ibrahim Musaibli in June 2018 while he was attempting to escape the Middle Euphrates River Valley where ISIS maintains the majority of its last remaining redoubts. He was sent back to the United States along with Samantha el-Hassani, a U.S. citizen who married an ISIS member. She was likely to face prosecution.

July 25: *AP*, *BBC*, *UPI*, and the *Guardian* reported that between 3:50 a.m. and 4:30 a.m., ISIS conducted numerous coordinated attacks, including suicide bombings, one against a vegetable market, in Sweida, killing 246, including 111 members of local militias and 135 civilians, and wounding 150, some critically. *Sweida News Network* said on *Facebook* that many of the killed were shot in the head. Some 30 people, including 14 women, were kidnapped. The state-run *Syrian Arab News Agency* reported that authorities killed two suicide bombers before they detonated their vests. One woman died in ISIS custody; another was shot dead. In August, ISIS killed a man, 19, while in custody. ISIS freed Rasmiya Abu Ammar and Abeer Shalgheen and her four children on October 20, 2018, in the first part of an exchange with the Syrian government designed to set free 60 women related to ISIS members and give the kidnappers a \$27 million ransom. The Suwayda 24 activist collective posted a photo of a woman and four children who were released and noted that authorities freed 17 wives of ISIS fighters and eight of their children. It added that 21 women and children still being held by ISIS were to be set free in the coming days.

AP and *SANA* reported on November 8, 2018, that Syrian troops freed 19 Druze women and children hostages held by ISIS in a military operation in the Hamima area east of the historic town of Palmyra. The UK-based Syrian Observatory for

Human Rights said the release was part of an exchange with the Syrian government in return for the freedom of women released to ISIS fighters and commanders as well as a monetary ransom. *SANA* said all ISIS fighters in the area where the hostages were held had been killed. The wife and two sons and daughter of Nashaat Abu Ammar were among those freed. One woman died in ISIS custody; ISIS killed another. In August, ISIS killed a man, 19. *AP* reported that ISIS shot and killed two children during an operation to free hostages. Nashaat Abu Ammar, a resident of Sweida whose wife, two sons and daughter were among those being held by IS, said his son Raafat, 8, was among the two boys shot dead during the Syrian army raid to free the hostages. A boy, Qusay, 13, was also killed. Abu Ammar said, “They shot him in his mother’s lap.” His wife was freed.

August 12: An explosion of unknown origin killed 36 people and wounded many others in the north.

October 12: ISIS abducted scores of civilians from the Hajin camp for displaced people in Deir el-Zour Province. Some 20 ISIS gunmen and several SDF fighters were killed. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said as many as 130 families were abducted. Many of the families were made up of foreign women, including widows of ISIS members who had been killed in the Syrian war.

November 12: Turkey’s state-run *Anadolu* news agency reported that a car bomb in front of a school in the Turkish-controlled town of Jarablus in northern Syria killed one person and wounded 24, five seriously. No one claimed credit.

November 23: Three gunmen assassinated Raed Fares, 46, founder of *Radio Fresh*, a channel broadcasting news across Syria’s once sprawling opposition-held areas, firing into his car as it stopped outside an apartment block in Kafranbel in the opposition enclave of Idlib, killing Fares and his colleague Hammoud al-Juneid. Writing in the *Washington Post* earlier in 2018, he said he had survived at least one assassination attempt. He had also been abducted by al-Qaeda’s Syrian affiliate several times.

December 2: U.S. military spokesman Colonel Sean Ryan announced that an airstrike in the desert area of Badiya killed senior ISIS commander Abu al-Umarayn, who was involved in the November 2014 execution of U.S. hostage and former U.S. Army ranger Peter Kassig, who changed his name to Abdul-Rahman Kassig after he converted to Islam while in ISIS captivity. Ryan added that al-Umarayn was linked to or directly involved in executing several other prisoners. Kassig was kidnapped in 2013. ISIS released a video showing his decapitated head beside his body. In 2006–07, Kassig served in Iraq as a medic with the U.S. Army

Rangers. When captured, he was volunteering as an aid worker in Syria, providing medical help and training to Syrians. He was en route to Deir al-Zour Province when ISIS kidnapped him near Raqqa.

December 13: A terrorist bombing killed three civilians and a Turkish soldier. 18121301

December 16: The activist-operated *Shaam* news agency and *AP* reported that a car bomb at a busy market in central Afrin, held by Turkish-backed opposition forces, killed eight people and wounded 24. The UK-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the bomb went off in a market near the base of one of the Islamist opposition groups governing Afrin. The Turkish state news agency *Anadolu* said four people were killed and 20 wounded.

Tunisia

January 9: Two Molotov cocktails hit a synagogue on Djerba island, setting fire to an empty prayer site.

March 19: The Interior Ministry announced that a suspected jihadi blew himself up in the Ben Guer-dane area near the border with Libya following a standoff with police. A second suspect was shot during a gun battle. The duo belonged to the ISIS-linked Jund al-Khilafa.

May 15: Police union official Nassim Rouissi told *Shems FM* radio that authorities stopped a knife-wielding Tunisian man, 45, who tried to attack a police captain outside the main synagogue on Avenue de la Liberte in Tunis. Online newspaper *Tunisie Numerique* reported that the assailant shouted that he hated Israel.

July 8: *TAP* reported that nine members of Tunisia's national guard were killed in a mine explosion near the Algerian border. Gunmen threw a grenade at the first of two vehicles, then fired on the guardsmen.

August 2: Police arrested two people suspected of planning an attack using homemade bombs containing ricin "simultaneously" with Sief Allah H. in Germany. Tunisian Interior Ministry spokesman Sofiane Zaag said one of the two was to procure fake travel documents so Sief Allah H. could flee after his attack.

October 29: *TAP* news agency reported that before 2 p.m., a suicide bomber, 30, blew herself up near a police patrol in front of Tunis's city theater on the popular Habib Bourguiba Avenue, killing herself and wounding eight police officers and one civilian. *Mosaïque FM* radio station said the attacker was wearing a home-made bomb belt carrying a small quantity of explosives. The station said the bomber came from the Mahdia region of eastern Tunisia and was unknown to security services. No one

claimed credit. Security services raided her home after the attack. On November 19, Tunisian Interior Minister Hicham Fourati said Mouna Guebla had pledged allegiance to ISIS. He noted that a preliminary report said the bombing injured 20 police officers and six civilians. She allegedly was in contact with extremist organizations inside and outside Tunisia.

United Arab Emirates

July 26: Yemeni Houthi Shi'ite rebels told the rebel-run *al-Masirah TV* that its "air force" had conducted "several strikes" using drones targeting Abu Dhabi's international airport in the UAE. Abu Dhabi's airport tweeted that there was an "incident involving a supply vehicle in Terminal 1 airside area of the airport." 18072602

West Bank

January 9: *Channel 10 TV* reported that during the night, Palestinian gunmen fired from their vehicle at an Israeli motorist near the Havat Gilad settlement outpost near Nablus, critically wounding him with multiple shots to his upper body, including the neck.

February 5: Local *Channel 2 News* reported that a Palestinian armed with two knives crossed a busy road and stabbed to death Itamar Ben Gal, 29, an Israeli father of four, at a bus stop near the entrance to the West Bank settlement of Ariel before escaping. An army officer gave chase, hitting the attacker with his vehicle, but the killer fled.

February 7: A security guard shot dead a Palestinian attacker after the latter stabbed and lightly wounded another guard at a settlement near Hebron.

March 16: A Palestinian rammed his white vehicle into soldiers securing routes near the Mevo Dotan settlement near Jenin, killing two Israeli soldiers, including an officer, and seriously wounding two others. The injured Palestinian driver was hospitalized. Shin Bet said the attacker had spent time in prison for security offenses and was freed in 2017. Hamas praised the "operation" but did not claim credit.

April 8: A Palestinian tried to stab an Israeli with a long screwdriver in the West Bank settlement of Mishor Adumim. Another Israeli civilian drew a gun and shot the would-be attacker. The wounded Palestinian was hospitalized in serious condition.

April 13: Arsonists tried to set fire to a mosque in the West Bank village of Aqraba. Red graffiti on a

nearby wall read “price tag,” a term used by Israeli extremists in protest against Palestinians or what they perceive as dovish Israeli government’s policies. Security camera footage showed two figures setting a fire at the mosque entrance.

April 22: The military arrested 15 Hamas operatives in an overnight West Bank raid. Those captured were suspected of collaborating with a well-known Hamas operative from Gaza to spread its activities to the West Bank.

July 26: *AFP* and *AP* reported that a Palestinian, 17, killed one Israeli, 31, and wounded two others in a nighttime stabbing attack in the Israeli settlement of Adam near Ramallah in the occupied West Bank near Jerusalem. The military said the attacker was later “neutralized.” Israeli media said the attacker was armed with an ax, infiltrated a home and attacked three men. One victim was wounded in the neck and the others in their upper body. One victim, 58, was seriously wounded. The third victim was slightly wounded in the leg and shot the terrorist. A community official said that neighbors heard the commotion and shot the terrorist, who was from the Palestinian village of Kobar.

AP reported on August 28, 2018, that the Israeli military used a bulldozer to demolish the one-story home in Kauber of Muhammad Tarek Ibrahim Dar Yusuf, a Palestinian who killed an Israeli in a West Bank settlement in July 2018. Yusuf was shot and killed at the scene of the attack. Dozens of Palestinians protested the demolition, hurling rocks and firebombs at troops.

September 3: Israeli troops shot to death a knife-wielding Palestinian man who approached an army checkpoint near the settlement of Kiryat Arba. No soldiers were hurt.

September 16: A Palestinian stabbed Ari Fuld, an Israeli-American settler, 45, to death at a busy mall near a major junction in the southern West Bank, close to the Gush Etzion settlement bloc. Civilians chased and shot the attacker, 17, who lived in a nearby Palestinian village. Fuld was an outspoken Israel advocate on social media platforms. Fuld, a father of four, lived in the nearby settlement of Efrat. He delivered care packages to Israeli soldiers and went on solidarity trips to communities near the Gaza Strip.

October 7: In the morning, Palestinian Ashraf Na’alwa, variant Naalweh, 23, from a nearby village opened fire inside the West Bank’s Barkan industrial zone where Israelis and Palestinians work together near Ariel settlement, killing two Israelis and seriously wounding a third. The terrorist fled the scene. Some workers suggested the attack was carried out by a disgruntled employee and was not politically motivated. Gaza’s Hamas rulers and other militant

groups praised the attack, but none claimed credit. The dead were Kim Levengrond Yehezkel, 28, a mother of an infant son, who worked in the office that was attacked, and Ziv Hajbi, 35, a father of three. Another woman in her 50s was seriously wounded; she said a Palestinian treated her wounds. Closed-circuit footage from the scene showed a man holding a handgun and wearing a backpack. Israeli media reported that the dead were found shot to death on their office floor with their hands bound. On October 9, the Israeli military said it was in pursuit of the attacker, Ashraf Na’alwa, in his hometown of Shweika, in the northern West Bank. Several Palestinians were arrested for questioning. Authorities said he had bound the victims with electrical wire in the factory in an industrial park where he worked, shooting them at close range before fleeing. *AP* reported on December 13, 2018, that Israel’s Security Agency announced that Na’alwa was discovered following a large-scale intelligence operation carried out with the army and police. ISA said, “A number of suspects were arrested and interrogated by the ISA who were aware of the perpetrator’s activity,” and that there were indications that he was planning an additional attack. He was armed and near Nablus. Hamas claimed the Israelis killed Na’alwa.

October 15: Soldiers shot and killed a Palestinian who attempted to stab a soldier. No one else was injured.

October 22: Troops shot and killed a Palestinian who attempted to stab a soldier, who was lightly wounded, in Hebron, outside the Cave of the Patriarchs, or the Ibrahimi Mosque, a site holy to Jews and Muslims. *Al-Jazeera* identified the Palestinian as Moammar Arif Refa’ey al-Atrash, 42, from Hebron.

November 26: A Palestinian rammed his car into a group of soldiers, injuring three, before he was shot dead by another soldier. The troops were performing engineering work on a route in the southern West Bank.

December 9: In a drive-by shooting from a vehicle driven by a Palestinian, an assailant wounded seven people who were standing at a bus stop at the entrance to Ofra, a Jewish settlement in the West Bank. A pregnant woman, Shira Ish-ran, 21, was hit in the stomach and was in critical condition. Her baby was prematurely delivered in the 30th week of pregnancy by cesarean section; the baby boy, Amiad, died on December 12 in Jerusalem’s Shaare Zedek Hospital. The mother remained in intensive care. Two 16-year-old girls were lightly hurt. Prime Minister Netanyahu said, “the murderers are abhorrent, the most deviant criminals on Earth.”

On December 10, Israeli military forces in Ramallah conducted several raids on stores and offices

of *Wafa*, the official Palestinian news agency, in a manhunt for the gunmen. *Wafa* staff said the troops confiscated security camera footage from their offices and detained them for 30 minutes.

Shin Bet announced on December 12 that Salah Barghouti, 29, a suspect in the attack, was killed during the night while “attempting to harm” Israeli forces as he sought to escape from an arrest raid. Authorities said he was the head of the cell responsible for the killing. Israeli SWAT and General Security Services teams tracked him to a Palestinian village not far from his home and the site of the shooting. They used a civilian car to surprise Barghouti, blocking the path of his taxi. Barghouti was killed in the raid and another Palestinian traveling with him was detained. He was the son of a senior Hamas member, Omar Barghouti, who spent many years in Israeli prison for murdering an Israeli bus driver in 1978.

Authorities arrested several suspects. Hamas claimed credit on December 13, saying, “The flame of resistance in the West Bank has not and will not be extinguished until the occupation is defeated from our entire land, and we regain our rights in full.” Hamas said Salah Barghouti was a “martyr,” who was killed alongside Ashraf Na’alwa who was also killed by Israeli security forces following a nine-week manhunt. He was accused of killing two of his Israeli co-workers at a West Bank factory. Hamas called the Israeli killings of the duo a “crime.”

December 13: Two Israeli soldiers were shot dead and a man and a woman were critically injured at a bus stop outside a settlement near Ramallah hours after Hamas claimed responsibility for the December 9 attack that injured seven Israelis. The gunman got out of a vehicle and shot at Israeli soldiers and civilians waiting at a bus station at Asaf Junction, near the Israeli settlements of Beit El and Ofra. The gunman, who was not alone in the car, fled toward Ramallah, which the military later sealed off. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu ordered the expedited demolition of attackers’ homes within 48 hours, increased detentions of Hamas militants in the West Bank, beefing up Israeli forces in the region, additional security on roadways, and increased checkpoints.

AP and *Yahoo* reported that Israeli soldiers shot and killed a Palestinian man near a bus stop outside an aluminum company in al-Bireh near Ramallah after he attempted to ram his car into them, lightly injuring one soldier. The Ministry of Health said the attacker was Hamdan Tawfiq al-Arda, 60, owner of the company. A member of the Palestinian Red Crescent said that soldiers stopped the first responders from attending to the man.

Yemen

January 18: Masked gunmen abducted Hisham Abdel-Rahman Bagash, an employee at the U.N. migration agency in Sana’a. The kidnappers yanked him out of his car and threatened him with a gun. Bagash’s father, Abdel-Rahman, said on *Facebook* that his son was accompanied by his wife at the time. 18011801

January 22: Houthi rebels fired Katyusha rockets on a military parade near Taiz, killing four civilians, including a local journalist, in an apparent assassination attempt on the interior minister and his deputy.

January 30: Suspected jihadis fired a mortar and heavy gunfire at a checkpoint near Ataq in Shabwa Province, killing 12 soldiers with the elite Shabwa Force that was trained by the United Arab Emirates and deployed in 2017 to the region. It declared victory over AQAP, which used Shabwa as a safe haven.

Southern Transitional Council separatists seized the area around the presidential Palace of Maashiq in Aden’s Crater district during the night. Security officials said the prime minister and several Cabinet members were planning to flee to Saudi Arabia.

February 24: Two car bombs went off at an anti-terrorism military camp with detention facilities for suspected militants in Aden, killing six people—three civilians and three security personnel—and wounding 43 others, including civilians. Witnesses heard heavy gunfire afterwards. One bomb hit an office of the separatist Southern Transitional Council, which is also the residence of Aden’s former governor Aidrous al-Zubaidi. He was not present. Gunmen tried to storm the camp before the explosion but failed. The Islamic State claimed credit.

March 13: The Islamic State claimed credit when a car bomb exploded outside a Yemeni security forces supply post in Aden, killing three people and wounding 35, including two children.

March 22: Tribal leaders claimed that a suspected U.S. drone strike hit a house in Marib Province, killing seven alleged AQAP operatives.

March 29: AQAP was suspected in an attack on a checkpoint in Hadramawt Province on an elite unit set up by the United Arab Emirates that killed nine soldiers and wounded four others. Five attackers were killed.

April 19: Security forces raided an AQAP hideout in al-Wadiah district in Abyan Province, killing two gunmen.

A Saudi-led coalition airstrike in Hodeida killed Saleh al-Samad, Houthi Supreme Political Council chief and acting head of state, along with six others. He was succeeded by Mahdi al-Mashat, a former Houthi fighter. Houthi rebel leader Abdul-Malek al-Houthi vowed to avenge al-Samad’s death.

April 21: Gunmen fired on an International Committee of the Red Cross vehicle carrying ICRC staffers in Taiz in the morning, killing staff member Hana Lahoud, 38, of Lebanon. He was in charge of the ICRC's detainees program in Yemen. He was shot en route to visit a prison in Taiz. Lahoud was buried in his home town on April 28. Prayers were held in the St. Charbel Church north of Beirut. 18042101

April 27: NPR and *al-Arabiya* reported that a Saudi airstrike on a high-level meeting of Shi'ite rebels in Sana'a killed more than 50 Houthi militiamen, including two of the group's leaders, among them their deputy leader. During a massive funeral the next day, the Houthis fired several missiles at the Kingdom. *Al-Arabiya* said the missile hit a building belonging to Yemen's Interior Ministry, killing more than 38 Houthi fighters. The group was discussing plans for the funeral of Saleh al-Samad, a Houthi political leader killed a week earlier in a Saudi airstrike on the coastal city of Hodeida.

April 28: Security forces raided an IS hideout in Yemen's south, killing top Islamic State group leader Saleh Naser Fadl al-Bakhshi and arresting three other IS members, who surrendered. Al-Bakhshi refused to surrender and shot at anti-terrorism forces, killing one and wounding two others.

May 14: Yemeni tribal and security officials claimed a missile fired by a suspected U.S. drone killed three AQAP gunmen driving in a vehicle in Shabwa Province.

AP reported on October 16, 2018, that French President Emmanuel Macron announced the release of French citizen Alain Goma, 54, who was held hostage in Yemen for more than four months. Goma was on a sailing trip when damage on the ship forced him to dock in a Yemeni port of Hodeida in June 2018. Houthi rebels released Goma from a prison in Sanaa. Macron thanked Oman's Sultan Qaboos bin Said and Omani authorities for their "decisive" role and thanked Saudi authorities for their help.

June 9: Gunmen killed Colonel Radwan el-Wassabi, who was backed by the United Arab Emirates, and wounded four of his guards in an evening attack in central Taiz.

July 25: Saudi state-run *al-Ekhbariya* TV reported that Yemeni Houthi Shi'ite rebels attacked and slightly damaged a Saudi oil tanker off the Saudi western coast. Houthi-run *al-Masirah* TV said that "naval forces have targeted the Saudi Dammam battleship." AP reported that the Houthis had attacked two Saudi oil tankers. 18072501

July 29: Gunmen on a motorcycle killed Colonel Nasser Makrij, chief intelligence officer at Aden airport, as he was walking on a street near his home in Aden. No group claimed credit.

July 31: A roadside bomb in Aden's Maala district wounded Aref Ahmed Ali of the Islah party, which is Yemen's branch of the Muslim Brotherhood, his son and two other people. No group claimed credit.

August 21: *Reuters* reported that U.S. officials believed that Saudi AQAP bomb maker Ibrahim al-Asiri, 36, was killed, along with two or four associates, in a 2017 drone strike in Yemen's Marib Province. He allegedly was behind the 2009 underwear bomb plot and made devices found on cargo planes in 2010. The U.S. Department of State had named him a "Specially Designated Global Terrorist" in 2011 and offered a \$5 million reward for any information leading to his capture. He earlier was part of an al-Qaeda cell in Saudi Arabia and alleged planned bombings of oil facilities there. He recruited his younger brother, Abdullah, as a suicide bomber in an August 2009 attempt to assassinate Saudi Arabia's then security chief, Prince Mohammed Bin Nayef Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud. He specialized in PETN bombs with chemical fuses.

August 25: AP reported that a week earlier, senior AQAP leader Ghalib al-Zaida was killed in a clash with Houthis in the Sirwah district of Marib Province. He had dozens of AQAP operatives under his command. In 2017, the UN Security Council placed him on its sanctions list as a Yemen-based individual "who acts for or on behalf of Al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula" by providing AQAP with weapons, funding, and recruits.

September 1: The Shi'ite Houthi rebel-run *al-Masirah* TV reported that the rebels had attacked a Saudi "battleship" off Saudi Arabia's Jizan Province. The group said it was responding to an airstrike that killed five fishermen off Yemen's coast. 18090101

September 5: The official *Saudi Press Agency* reported that shrapnel wounded two civilians when the government shot down a missile fired across the border with Yemen by Houthi rebels into Najran Province during the night. The rebel-run *al-Masirah* TV claimed the missile targeted a Saudi military camp, hitting it "accurately." 18090501

September 9: Tribal leaders claimed that a U.S. drone strike killed four alleged AQAP members, including a field leader in Ahwar district in Abyan Province.

October 28: Gunmen fired on the car in which top anti-narcotics police officer Colonel Fadl Sael was traveling with two members of his security detail in Aden, killing all three.

November 25: Yemeni tribal leaders claimed that a suspected U.S. drone strike killed two AQAP commanders and four other militants in a hideout in al-Qrishia district in Bayda Province.

NORTH AMERICA

Canada

April 23: At 1:30 p.m., a white Ryder rental van drove for more than a mile on a Yonge Street sidewalk in the North York section of Toronto, killing ten and injuring 16, five critically. Police detained the male driver, who was driving 35–45 mph. One witness saw a baby stroller flying in the air. Police arrested Alek Minassian, 25, without firing a shot. He yelled at police, “Shoot me in the head,” while waving an object at them. He was charged on April 24 with ten counts of murder and 13 of attempted murder. The judge ordered him held without bond and scheduled a May 10 hearing. Police Chief Mark Saunders said “the incident definitely looked deliberate.” Minassian lived in the Toronto suburb of Richmond Hill, and had not been known to police previously. Eight of the ten dead were women, and ranged in age from 22 to 94.

Police cited a “cryptic” *Facebook* message posted by Minassian just before the incident that suggested he was part of an online community angry over their inability to form relationships with women. On *Facebook* he saluted a community college student who killed six people and wounded 13 in shooting and stabbing attacks near the University of California, Santa Barbara, in 2014. He called killer Elliot Rodger “the Supreme Gentleman,” saying, “The Incel Rebellion has already begun! We will overthrow all the Chads and Stacy!” “Private (Recruit) Minassian” is speaking. Rodger, 22, had used the term “incel” (involuntarily celibate) in online posts raging at women for rejecting him romantically. Some Internet forums use “Chad” and “Stacy” as dismissive slang for men and women with more robust sex lives.

Minassian had attended Thornlea Secondary School in Richmond Hill, graduating in 2011. He was since a student at Seneca College. A friend said he took a computer programming class, was “socially awkward,” and talked to few people.

Minassian was a member of the Canadian Armed Forces from August 23 until October 25, 2017. Na-

tional Defense spokeswoman Jessica Lamirande said, “He did not complete his recruit training and requested to be voluntarily released from the CAF after 16 days of recruit training.”

Among the dead were

- Munair Najjar, variant Munir Abdo Habib al-Najar, a Jordanian in his 70s in Toronto visiting one of his children, according to Jordan’s state-run *Petra* news agency and the Jordanian Embassy in Ottawa.

- Two South Koreans, according to the *Yonhap News Agency*, citing government officials. Another South Korean was seriously injured.

- Chul Min “Eddie” Kang, an employee at a Copacabana Brazilian Steakhouses restaurant in Toronto.

- Sohe Chung, who attended the Catholic all-girls high school Loretto Abbey.

- Anne Marie D’Amico, 30, who worked at the U.S.-based investment management firm Invesco. Her parents lived in Toronto. She volunteered at the Canada-based international humanitarian charity Live Different and helped build houses in Puerta Plata in the northern Dominican Republic in 2015 and 2017. She attended Ryerson University in Toronto. She volunteered with the non-profit Tennis Canada association, working at the Rogers Cup tournament since age 12. She started out as a ball girl and worked her way up to lead a committee on stadium control. She was voted volunteer of the year in 2016. She was an alum of the Catholic all-girls high school Loretto Abbey.

- A female student at Seneca College; two other students suffered minor injuries.

- Dorothy Sewell, 80, a grandmother who loved the Toronto Blue Jays and Maple Leafs.

- Renuka Amarasingha, 45 (or 48, reports differed), a Canadian citizen who attended the Mahavihara Buddhist Meditation Centre. The single mother came to Canada from Horana, Sri Lanka and lived with her son, 7. She worked at school cafeterias and often helped arrange religious ceremonies at the

temple. She had just completed her first day of work at Earl Haig Secondary School, a short distance from the attack.

Mike McCormack, president of the Toronto Police Association, said an officer's behavior in arresting the suspect was "one shining moment" in an otherwise horrific day, noting, "We're extremely proud of him.... He may have prevented additional deaths." Minassian pointed a dark object at the officer and claimed he had a gun. The officer kept yelling for him to get down.

On May 10, 2018, prosecutors filed three additional counts of attempted murder against Minassian. He now faced 16 counts of attempted murder and 10 counts of murder. He was represented by defense attorney Boris Bytensky. The next hearing was scheduled for September 14.

AP reported on December 4, 2018, that Justice John McMahon scheduled the trial of Alek Minassian to begin on February 3, 2020. He set aside up to four months for the hearings.

May 24: AP and CNN reported that the Peel Regional Police released an image made from CCTV footage of two suspects with their faces covered entering a glass doorway of the Bombay Bhel Indian restaurant in Mississauga, a suburb of Toronto, and dropping off a bomb before fleeing. Police said an "improvised explosive device" went off at 10:30 p.m., wounding 15 people. Children were present for two family parties at a mall. Three Indian-Canadians suffered critical injuries. The ages of the injured range from 23 to 69. Children under the age of 10 were present but were not hurt.

July 22: Faisal Hussain, 29, wearing black clothes and a black hat fired a handgun into restaurants and cafes on Danforth Street and Logan Avenues in Toronto's Greektown area, killing Julianna Kozis, 10, of Markham, Ontario, and a female McMaster University student, Reese Fallon, 18, and injuring 13 before police shot him three blocks from the scene. His body was found back on Danforth; it was not clear whether he killed himself or died from police bullets. Five people were in serious or critical conditions, including a girl, aged 8 or 9. Victims included eight women and girls and seven men. The injured ranged in age from 17 to 59. Police Chief Mark Saunders initially said terrorism had not been ruled out, but on July 24 Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale said there was no risk to national security. The next day, Toronto Police Chief Mark Saunders said officials found no evidence to support ISIS's claim of responsibility. Hussain's family claimed he had lifelong "severe mental health challenges." He had lived with his parents and siblings in a low-income apartment on Thorncliffe Park Drive in the eastern part of Toronto. AP reported

on September 20, 2018, that Faisal Hussain was an emotionally disturbed loner who did not appear to act out of ideological motivation, according to police documents. Hussain had been arrested for shoplifting two days before the shooting but was released. Hussain had three dealings with police as an "emotionally distressed person" in 2010. Hussain's twin brother said Hussain once robbed a store with a gun and had called police to say he wanted to kill himself.

December 13: CNN reported that e-mailed bomb threats were sent to locations in Vancouver, Ottawa and Toronto.

Mexico

March 1: Quintana Roo state prosecutor Miguel Angel Pech Cen said undetonated explosives were found by a Barcos Caribe company diver on a ferry that runs between Playa del Carmen and Cozumel. The boat was anchored 500 yards from the Cozumel dock and had been out of commercial service for ten months. On February 21, a bomb went off on a ferry owned by the same company and on the same route, injuring 19 Mexicans and five U.S. citizens. Authorities initially blamed a mechanical malfunction. The U.S. Embassy announced, "U.S. Government employees are prohibited from using all tourist ferries on this route until further notice."

November 30: Jalisco State's attorney general's office announced that federal officials took over an investigation into reports that an explosive device was detonated at the U.S. consulate in Guadalajara. The Consulate closed due to what it described only as a "security incident" that evening. No one was injured. 18113002

United States

January 17: *NBC10 News* and *The Atlantic* reported that ISIS commander Zulfy Hoxha, 25, alias Abu Hamza al-Amriki, grew up on the Jersey shore and graduated from Atlantic City High School in 2010. His Albanian immigrant family ran a pizza restaurant in Margate, New Jersey. His mother, Ltefaji Hoxha, said they had not been in contact for a year, and that he had attended a mosque where "he hated people." He moved to Syria to join ISIS in April 2015. Prosecutors identified him in the federal case against David "Daoud" Wright, who was convicted in 2017 on terrorism charges and was serving 28 years in prison. Hoxha appeared in a May 2017 ISIS propaganda video, calling for lone wolf terrorists to conduct attacks on U.S. soil. "Liberate yourself from hellfire by killing a kafir." He appeared in battlefield fatigues and knelt in front of rocket launchers.

January 18: The *Long War Journal* reported that the U.S. had requested from France the extradition of German al-Qaeda member Christian Ganczarski, who faced charges for several terror-related crimes, including a plot in Southeast Asia, and a planned attack against U.S. and Israeli interests in 2001 in a superseding indictment. He had been in French jails since 2003 for a bombing in Djerba, Tunisia. He was linked to Gitmo alum Mohammedou Ould Slahi, purportedly an al-Qaeda recruiter.

January 21: At 5:30 p.m., two devices later believed to be marine flares ignited in the delivery corridor outside the J.C. Penney of the Eagle Ridge Mall in Lake Wales, Florida, generating much smoke but no injuries. Bomb technicians found no incendiary or explosive device. *WTSP* initially reported that they were two makeshift pipe bombs, flares wrapped in PVC, and electrical tape. The device knocked down some ceiling tiles. Another suspicious package was reported at a movie theater but turned out to be an old box. Witnesses reported a middle-aged, heavyset man in a gray shirt and gray hat ran from the mall around the time of the explosion.

January 22: A court sentenced Somalia-born Abdirahman Sheik Mohamud, 26, of Columbus, Ohio, to 22 years in federal prison after he pleaded guilty to providing material support to terrorists and giving a false statement involving international terrorism in August 2015. The court said he went to Syria in early 2014 to join his brother in al-Nusrah and give him \$1,000 and a communication device. He trained with al-Nusrah in weapons and tactics, including how to enter a structure and kill those inside. He plotted to kill soldiers in Texas upon his return to the United States. His brother, Abdifatah Aden, was killed in June 2014; there was no evidence that they met face-to-face. He and three other men went to an Ohio shooting range in September 2014; Mohamud taught two of them how to shoot a handgun. The FBI arrested him in February 2015; he promptly lied about his time overseas. He had come to the United States before his second birthday. He was a legal permanent resident since 1993 and took his oath of allegiance to the United States at a naturalization ceremony in February 2014.

January 24: *CNN* reported that an FBI sting involving 60 agents led to the arrest of Harlem Suarez, tattooed Cuban-American crepe-maker and pro-ISIS weightlifter in Key West, Florida. The high school dropout was sentenced to life in prison without parole for plotting terror attacks on behalf of ISIS. He had failed several times to contact ISIS recruiters overseas. He legally owned two Glock semi-automatic pistols and an AR-15 rifle. In 2015, he created *Facebook* persona Almlak Benitez, alias Black Angel of Death, and uploaded violent jihadist propaganda and sent circa 200 *Facebook* friend requests

seeking out “brothers” sympathetic to the cause. A *Facebook* user notified the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office and gave screen grabs to the FBI. Twenty FBI agents surveilled Suarez each day and used paid FBI informants to pose as an ISIS supporter and a bomb-maker. Suarez mused about blowing up police cars on July 4. He was recorded as saying, “If we can learn how to work it out, we can in one night, we can hit more than 10 targets.... Another month, we can hit like another 10 in another city. Now if we have more of our brothers helping us, they don’t have to be that close.... In the future, we can have everyone together for the fight.” In July, an undercover agent posing as a bomb-maker named Omar met Suarez in a parking lot gave him an FBI-built inert explosive device. The Bureau arrested Suarez when he got out of the car and charged him with attempted use of a weapon of mass destruction and material support to ISIS. Before the trial, he rejected a plea deal that would have capped his sentence at 20 years. He was represented by attorney Richard Della Fera. The team of public defenders filed a brief in October 2017 with the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, arguing that a life sentence was cruel and unusual punishment for a young, gullible, first-time offender with no history of violence. They said that a clinical assessment by a neuropsychologist noted that he had a low average IQ and cognitive deficiencies. Oral argument in the case was set for April 25, 2018, at the federal courthouse in Atlanta.

January 25: The Trump administration designated as global terrorists six individuals accused of supporting the Taliban and Haqqani Network in Afghanistan, including

- Former central bank governor Abdul Samad Sani.
- Abdul Qadeer Basir Abdul Baseer, who led the finance commission of the Taliban leadership shura in Peshawar and allegedly provided tens of thousands of dollars for Taliban attacks in Afghanistan’s Kunar Province in the fall of 2017.
- Hafiz Mohammed Popalzai, who served for several years on the Taliban Finance Commission and was in charge of the Taliban’s finances for southern and western Afghanistan. He allegedly passed on 10 million euros paid to the Taliban for the release of hostages in mid-2011 to the finance commission’s leader in Quetta.
- Maulawi Inayatullah, a Taliban military affairs member in charge of multiple Afghan provinces, and a member of the Taliban Peshawar Shura.
- Faqir Muhammad and Gula Khan Hamidi, believed to have acted for the Haqqani Network.

January 31: U.S. Department of State counterterror official Nathan A. Sales told a Tel Aviv conference

that Ismail Haniyeh, a leader of Hamas, had been named a “specially designated global terrorist.” The State Department also announced that the Hasm movement and Liwaa el-Thawra were “Specially Designated Global Terrorist” groups.

February 7: The *Washington Examiner* reported that the U.S. Department of the Treasury imposed sanctions on three individuals aiding terrorist groups in Pakistan.

- Rahman Zeb Faqhir Muhammed provided material support to Lashkar-e-Tayyiba.
- Hizb Ullah Astam Khan built bombs in Afghanistan and coordinated another terrorist leader’s travel throughout the region.
- Dilawar Khan Nadir Khan and Hizb Ullah Astam Khan arranged operations with the Taliban and LeT.

February 10: The *Long War Journal* reported that the U.S. Department of the Treasury designated three ISIS facilitators of drone acquisition as terrorists and sanctioned three associated entities.

- Yunus Emre Sakarya, a dual citizen of Germany and Turkey, helped acquire unmanned aerial vehicle “components” since “at least 2015.” He established a “Turkey-based company, Profesy-oneller Elektronik,” in the Kecioren district of Ankara in 2015 and operated it ever since. During the first half of 2016, the firm “was involved in transactions for UAV-related equipment that totaled over \$500,000 for ISIS.” He operated from Mayadin, Syria’s Deir Ezzor Province.

- Mohamed Mire Ali Yusuf (Mire Ali) was “an ISIS-aligned financial operative” who “provided funds” to Abdulqadir Mumin, an al-Shabaab commander in Somalia’s Puntland region. He defected to the Islamic State in 2015. The US designated Mumin a terrorist in August 2016. Two of Mire Ali’s companies, Liibaan Trading and Al-Mutafaq Commercial Company, both of located in Bosaso, Puntland, were added to the U.S. government’s list of designated terrorist organizations. Liibaan is a “livestock trading business” that has “served as a front for ISIS-aligned groups in the Bari region of Somalia.”

- Abdulpatta Escalon Abubakar who was detained by Filipino authorities in September 2017 “as he was traveling from the Gulf to the Philippines.” The U.S. also placed him in Jeddah and Daina, Saudi Arabia. By the time of his capture, Abubakar had served the ISIS network in the Philippines for more than 18 months. Among the transactions Treasury attributed to Abubakar was a July 2016 transfer of about \$20,000 “sent” by ISIS and “may have been used by ISIS elements in the Philippines to purchase arms.” Treasury reported that Abubakar facilitated a “transfer

of approximately \$50,000 to ISIS’s network in the Philippines” in August 2016 and another \$5,000 in July 2017. He had worked with Isnilon Hapilon, the former leader of the Abu Sayyaf Group who joined al-Baghdadi’s cause. In 2016, Hapilon had Abubakar “procure a large amount of ammunition and arms ... and improvised explosive device materials.”

February 15: A criminal complaint filed in federal court in Manhattan charged former Harlem high school teacher Christian Toro and his twin brother Tyler Toro, 28, with attempting to make explosives, in part by paying students to extract gunpowder from fireworks since October 2017. Christian Toro resigned shortly after a student called in a bomb threat on December 4, 2017. A student was arrested for making the threat. After the resignation, Tyler Toro returned Christian’s school-issued laptop, and a technician found a book about explosives on the computer. Christian Toro told authorities that he did not mean to download the manual, which he discovered while researching the 2013 Boston Marathon bombings.

On January 31, 2018, Christian Toro was arrested on charges of raping a minor. Students told FBI agents that Christian had paid at least two of them \$50 an hour to dismantle fireworks and retain the gunpowder. A search of his apartment found bomb-making material, including 20 pounds of iron oxide, and other things that could be used to make a bomb, including metal spheres that could be used as projectiles. A diary apparently belonging to Tyler noted, “We are twin Toros strike us now, we will return with nano thermite.” An index card said, “Under the full moon the small ones will know terror.”

February 15: In the early morning, a U.S. flag was pulled from a flag pole, desecrated, slashed, and replaced with a replica of the ISIS banner at Hurricane High School in Hurricane, Utah. Authorities found graffiti saying, “ISIS IS COMI.”

March 2: A package bomb killed Anthony Stephan House, 39, at the front porch of his northeast Austin, Texas home at 1112 Haverford Drive. It was the first attack by a serial bomber in the city.

March 3: During the night, Chad Horsley, a former reserve sheriff’s deputy from Denham Springs, Louisiana, crashed his pickup truck through the window of a Best Stop store owned by a Sikh family of Indian immigrants. Horsley mistakenly thought they were Muslims. The Sheriff’s office said, “According to Horsley, he was under the impression the owners were Muslim.... He blamed Muslims for killing his fellow service members overseas.... He was also upset that Muslims, in his mind, were having an easier time prospering than he was de-

spite his time in the service.” The Baton Rouge Advocate reported that Horsley joined the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve in 2014 and had served as a deputy in East Baton Rouge Parish, both full time and as a reserve, for six years, starting in 2010. Horsley was charged with a hate crime, criminal damage to property, criminal mischief and two counts of impersonating a peace officer. He was released on \$56,000 bail.

March 5: *AP* and *The Daily Beast* reported on April 12, 2018, that on March 5, 2018, Benjamin Morrow, 28, was found dead in his Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, apartment’s kitchen after a bomb he was making accidentally went off. He was a home-schooled white supremacist. Investigators said they found a “one-gallon metal container of acetone,” a substance often found in the “Mother of Satan” bombs used by ISIS. Morrow also possessed guns, a rifle scope, masks, vests, thousands of rounds of ammunition, and “white supremacist material.” He studied pre-pharmacy, math and chemistry at Pensacola Christian College in Florida, and worked as a quality-control technician at Richelieu Foods.

March 12: Police in Austin, Texas, suggested that three package bombs that exploded at local homes were linked, possibly to racial violence as two hit African Americans and a third seriously injured an elderly Hispanic woman. One went off on March 2. Bombs then went off on March 12 at 4806 Oldfort Hill Drive and 6708 Galindo Street. One bomb exploded in the morning in eastern Austin, killing Draylen Mason, a black male, 17, and hospitalizing a woman. Five hours later, around noon, a bomb in the southeast hospitalizing Esperanza Herrera, a woman in her 70s, “with serious potentially life threatening injuries,” according to the Austin-Travis County Emergency Medical Service. Her mother, Maria Moreno, suffered minor injuries. The packages were not expected, and were left at the homes, rather than mailed or sent via courier services. Texas Governor Greg Abbott offered a \$15,000 reward for information leading to an arrest.

March 13: *Reuters* reported that U.S. District Judge Brian Cogan in Brooklyn’s federal court sentenced U.S. citizen Muhanad Mahmoud al-Farekh, 32, to 45 years in prison for supporting al-Qaeda and helping to prepare a January 19, 2009, car bomb attack on U.S. Forward Operating Base Chapman in Afghanistan. His fingerprints were found on packing tape for a bomb that did not explode. Prosecutors for the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of New York had sought a life sentence. Defense attorney David Ruhnke said he would appeal the conviction. In September 2017, a jury found al-Farekh guilty of conspiring to murder Americans, using a weapon of mass destruction and supporting a foreign terrorist organization. In 2015, U.S. pros-

ecutors accused Texas-born al-Farekh of traveling with two fellow students from the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada, to Pakistan with the intention of fighting U.S. forces. Ferid Imam, who had traveled with Farekh in 2007, was indicted but remained at large.

March 18: *NPR* reported that a bomb rigged to a stolen for sale sign and possibly set off by a tripwire, exploded on the side of the road during the evening on the 4800 block of Dawn Song Drive in Austin, Texas, seriously injuring two white men, aged 22 and 23, respectively, riding by on bicycles in a southwestern residential neighborhood. The bomb contained shrapnel. Police increased a reward for information about the bombings to \$100,000.

March 20: A package bomb destined for Austin, Texas, exploded at 12:25 a.m. on an automated conveyor belt at a FedEx package sorting facility at 9935 Doerr Lane in Schertz, Texas, near San Antonio. One person was treated for minor injuries. An employee experienced ringing in her ears. Police suggested that the device originated from a FedEx in Sunset Valley, an Austin enclave. Police offered rewards of up to \$115,000 for information in the case. *CNN* reported that an unexploded bomb was found at a second FedEx facility near Austin’s international airport.

March 21: *CNN* reported that around 3:30 a.m., police surrounded the WoodSpring Suites motel off route 35 in Round Rock, Texas, 18 miles north of Austin, in the search for the serial bomber. As police awaited tactical units, a white man, Mark Anthony Conditt, 23, drove off in his red SUV, but stopped next to a ditch on the side of the I-35 frontage road. When police approached, he set off a bomb, killing himself and knocking back and injuring a SWAT member. A SWAT officer fired his weapon at the suspect. Police had obtained surveillance images showing the suspect at a FedEx store in Austin. The *Austin Statesman* reported that authorities used “store receipts showing suspicious transactions from the person and obtained a search warrant for his Google search history that showed him conducting searches they considered suspicious.” Police swarmed Conditt’s house in 403 2nd Street, North in nearby Pflugerville, searching for clues as to motivation. An ATF agent said one room in the house had components for making similar bombs. His grandmother said Conditt came from a tight-knit family and was home schooled. He attended Austin Community College from 2010 to 2012 but did not graduate. In a blog he wrote as part of a class requirement for a government class at ACC in 2012 he said he liked “cycling, parkour, tennis, reading, and listening to music” and said he was politically conservative, nothing that “Homosexuality is not natural. Just look at the male and female bodies.

They are obviously designed to couple.” He equated homosexuality with pedophilia and bestiality and defended the death penalty. He also argued against releasing Guantanamo detainee Majid Khan. An arrest warrant for Conditt and a criminal complaint charging him with one count of unlawful possession and transfer of a destructive device were filed on March 20. *CNN* reported that Conditt left a 25-minute confession on his phone, describing how he built seven bombs. Police questioned his two housemates.

March 26: *NBC News*, *AP*, *CNN*, and *Fox News* reported that suspicious packages that tested positive for explosives, including black powder and residue, were mailed to several military and intelligence locations in the Washington, D. C. area, including the CIA, DIA, Fort Belvoir, Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division, in Dahlgren, Virginia, FBI mailing facility in Baltimore, National Geospatial Intelligence Agency, and the National Defense University at Fort McNair. The NDU package arrived at 8:30 a.m. A similar package arrived at 11 a.m. at the Naval Support Facility Dahlgren in King George County, Virginia. None of the packages exploded, and were sent to the FBI Academy for investigation. Police did not believe that the bombs were the work of deceased Austin serial bombmaker Mark Anthony Conditt. *NBC News* reported the next day that packages showed up in mail handling facilities addressed to the U.S. Secret Service White House Mail Screen Facility National Security Agency (NSA), National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), and the CIA, the latter with six packages addressed to it. The *Washington Post* added the packages were addressed to Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling in Washington, D.C., and at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Each package contained a typewritten letter with “ramblings about neuropsychology, mind control, and other subjects including terrorism.” The package at the FBI mailing facility tested positive for double base smokeless powder, which could detonate or explode when confined.

The *Washington Post* reported on March 27 that the FBI had arrested a man in Seattle on suspicion of sending the 11 packages. Later that day, Thanh Cong Phan, 43, of Everett, was charged in federal court in Seattle with one count of shipment of explosive materials when he shipped a vial containing black powder with a fuse on March 16 from a U.S. Postal Service kiosk in Mill Creek, north of Seattle. He was represented by public defender Ashwin Catnamanchi. A U.S. Postal Service inspector traced one of the packages to a Mill Creek self-service kiosk which surveillance photos showed Phan using. Phan earlier sent hundreds of letters and emails to various government agencies containing “similar incoherent ramblings,” according to the federal com-

plaint. In 2011, he was charged in Washington state court with unlawful possession of a firearm. He had a 1990 conviction for felony second-degree assault and was prohibited from having a weapon. Snohomish County sheriff’s deputies found a handgun in his backpack when they responded to a mental health call in May 2011 in the Everett area. The weapon charge was dismissed in 2015 after Phan completed an alternative diversion prosecution program.

April 3: *CNN* reported an active shooter at *YouTube* headquarters in San Bruno, California. Ambulances took three patients injured by 9mm bullets away from the scene. A fourth person suffered an ankle injury while escaping the gunfire. The shooter died of a self-inflicted gunshot. Police said San Diego resident Nasim Najafi Aghdam, in her late 30s, was a disgruntled user of the site. *YouTube* listed four channels for her, including one in Farsi, one in Turkish, one in English and one devoted to hand art. She also had an *Instagram* page that focuses on vegan life. She had posted, “There is no equal growth opportunity on YOUTUBE or any other video sharing site, your channel will grow if they want to!!!!” “Youtube filtered my channels to keep them from getting views!” She called herself a vegan body-builder and an animal rights activist.

April 11: Ibrahim Zubair Mohammad, the second of two brothers accused of sending money to an al-Qaeda leader, pleaded guilty in a federal court in Toledo, Ohio to supporting terrorism. He was one of four men charged three years earlier with raising money through fraudulent credit card charges beginning in 2005. The Indian citizen studied at the University of Illinois and had lived in Toledo since 2006. His brother, Yahya Farooq Mohammad, was sentenced in November 2017 to 27 years in prison after pleading guilty to supporting terrorism and trying to arrange the killing of a federal judge overseeing his case. The remaining two defendants were due in court for change-of-plea hearings on April 12, 2018.

April 28: *NPR* reported that Herman Bell, a Black Liberation Army killer of two police officers who were lured to a site on May 21, 1971, had been released, over the objections of the Patrolmen’s Benevolent Association, a powerful police union. The *New York Daily News* reported on March 15, 2018 that a state Parole Board approved Herman Bell’s release following a March 1 hearing—his eighth. He had been in prison for nearly 45 years. Bell, now 70, Anthony Bottom and Albert Washington ambushed Officers Joseph Piagentini and Waverly Jones at the Colonial Park Houses—now the Rangel Houses—on W. 159th St. with a fake 911 call. Jones was shot in the head and died instantly. Piagentini was shot 22 times, begging for his life

and saying that he had a wife and two children. Bell was arrested in the West Coast, where he had killed another officer, in 1973. He was convicted of the NYPD killings in 1979. In 2009, Bell pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter in the August 1971 murder of Sergeant John Young in San Francisco. He was represented by attorney Robert Boyle, who said, "He has satisfied all the criteria for parole, he has expressed remorse, he has an unblemished prison record and he's been extremely involved in helping others inside.... It is only correct that the Parole Board apply the law in this controversial case and granted him parole and we are gratified they did so."

May 15: NBCLosAngeles.com reported that an "intentional detonation" at 1 p.m. at the Aliso Viejo medical building at 11 Mareblu in Aliso Viejo off of Route 73, in Orange County, California killed a woman and injured three other people. Authorities evacuated 100 children from the nearby Academy on the Hills day care and preschool. The *NBC4 I-Team* reported that the device was delivered to the building, addressed to a specific person. It exploded when the cosmetologist opened the box. On May 17, federal authorities charged Stephen Beal, 59, a former boyfriend and business partner of the deceased Hungarian woman, Ildiko Krajnyak, 48, with possessing an unregistered destructive device. Police found two explosives in his Long Beach home. She had recently broken up with Beal, a rocket enthusiast and actor in short films. Beal had been an investment banker, but turned to acting when his wife died in 2008.

The U.S. Department of the Treasury designated Valiollah Seif, governor of the Iranian central bank, and Ali Tarzali, who works in the central bank's international division, as specially designated terrorists and barred anyone in the world from doing business with them. Treasury said they funneled millions of dollars through an Iraqi bank to help Hizballah. The sanctions did not extend to the central bank per se.

June 4: The *Virginian Pilot* reported that a court sentenced Shivam Patel, 28, of Williamsburg, Virginia, to five years in prison for passport fraud and making false statements in his application to join the U.S. military. He had told an FBI undercover agent that he wanted to commit jihad. The Hindu-raised Patel had converted to Islam, left his job teaching English in China to fly to Jordan, where he talked about joining ISIS. Jordan moved to deport him. The FBI information said Patel expressed admiration for Army Major Nidal Hasan, who had killed 13 soldiers at Fort Hood, Texas.

June 6: A federal court notice indicated that U.S. officials planned to return to Syria, against his will, a U.S. citizen accused of supporting ISIS, after hold-

ing him for nine months in U.S. military custody without charges. His case tested whether U.S. citizens captured on a battlefield as suspected "enemy combatants" have the right to challenge their detentions. The release was to take place within 72 hours. The American Civil Liberties Union had been representing him. He was turned over to U.S. forces in September 2017 after he was captured at a rebel Syrian Democratic Forces checkpoint in Syria and declared his U.S. citizenship. He grew up in Saudi Arabia and also had Saudi citizenship. American officials earlier indicated that they lacked admissible evidence to charge him with a crime. In April 2018, U.S. District Judge Tanya S. Chutkan barred the government from transferring him, also against his will, to the custody of a third country that had agreed to accept him and formally confirmed he would not face torture. References in the filing suggested the country was Saudi Arabia. In May, the government appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, where a three-judge panel agreed the government cannot "forcibly—and irrevocably—transfer" the man.

June 13: NPR and AP reported that federal officials charged Waheba Issa Dais, 45, of Cudahy, Wisconsin, with providing "material support or resources to a foreign terrorist organization" by hacking social media accounts to recruit on behalf of ISIS and providing instructions "on how to make explosives, biological weapons and suicide vests." She was a native of Jerusalem and came to the U.S. in 1992 sans a passport because she was married to a U.S. citizen. The couple divorced in 2003. She became a lawful permanent resident whom the FBI believed did not work outside of the home.

June 30: Boise, Idaho Police Chief Bill Bones said nine people, including six children, were hospitalized, four with life-threatening injuries, after a nighttime mass stabbing at a Boise Wylie Street apartment complex that is home to many refugee families. Police arrested Timmy Kinner, 30, from Los Angeles; he was charged with nine counts of aggravated battery and six counts of injury to a child. Police received a report of a stabbing at 8:46 p.m. Police found victims in the parking lot and inside the apartment complex. The previous day, Kinner had been asked to leave the Boise apartment complex. He is not a refugee.

July 1: The FBI arrested Demetrius Nathaniel Pitts, 48, who used the name Abdur Raheem Rafeeq on *Facebook*, who was planning a July 4 attack on a parade in downtown Cleveland. Pitts lived in Maple Heights. He was charged with attempted material support of a foreign terrorist organization. Mike Tobin, a spokesman for the U.S. Attorney's Office in Cleveland, said he met in June 2018 with someone he believed to be a member of al-Qaeda to fur-

ther his plot. That person was working for the FBI, which was first tipped to Pitts because of his online postings in 2017 which expressed a hatred of the United States and a desire to join al-Qaeda. He had talked of a similar plot in Philadelphia, where he had some ties. Tobin said Pitts saw himself as a scout who would not detonate bombs himself but find a location to do maximum damage.

In a meeting on June 22, 2018, Pitts asked the agent, "What would hit them in the core?" "Blow up in the, have a bomb to blow up at the 4th of July parade." He told the agent he would conduct surveillance in Cleveland and later gave the agent a phone with photos and videos of potential bomb targets, including Voinovich Park and the U.S. Coast Guard Station. The duo discussed placing bombs inside small remote-controlled cars. Later Pitts advocated using an explosives-laden vehicle. "Yeah, like a full van.... Why—why play wit' 'em." "The only thing I'm gonna be responsible for is going to look at the spot, to scope out the scenery." When reminded that people would die in a bombing, Pitts said, "I don't care." Pitts suggested the remote-controlled cars be given to the children of military personnel so they could unwittingly detonate the bombs at the parade or take them home and blow up their own houses. He was then arrested. Magistrate Judge David A. Ruiz scheduled a preliminary hearing and a detention hearing at 10 a.m. July 5. Federal public defender Timothy Ivey represented Pitts, who faced 20 years in prison.

August 10: The *USA Times* of the KVH Media Group on August 12, 2018 reported that at 8 p.m., Richard Russell, nicknamed Beebo, 29, a suicidal plane mechanic from Pierce County, stole an empty Horizon Air Bombardier Q400 turboprop plane from Sea-Tac International Airport in Washington State. The plane can seat 76 people. Two F-15C military jets scrambled from Portland, Oregon, chased him as he did barrel rolls and loops before crashing into the small and heavily forested Ketron Island in the Puget Sound during the night. The media ran audio of the air traffic controllers trying to talk him into landing at nearby Joint Base Lewis-McChord, but "Rich" demurred, replying "Oh man. Those guys will rough me up if I try and land there.... This is probably jail time for life, huh? ... I've had a lot of people that care about me. It's going to disappoint them to hear that I did this. Just a broken guy, got a few screws loose, I guess." The individual had worked for Horizon Airlines for 3½ years, but apparently was not a licensed pilot. He used a push-back tractor to move the plane out of the maintenance area. His job entailed towing aircraft, loading and unloading cargo and luggage, and cleaning the plane. He was a leader in the local Christian youth ministry Young Life.

August 13: At 2:30 a.m., Duane Youd, 47, of Utah, flew a twin-engine Cessna 525 into his own house in Payson, Utah, hours after being freed on bail following his arrest for assaulting his wife in nearby American Fork Canyon where the couple had gone to talk over their problems. His wife and a child were in the two-story house but survived. The plane belonged to his employer and was housed at the Spanish Fork-Springville Airport. He had been charged with disorderly conduct in an April 8 domestic violence case.

August 15: *AP* and the *USA Times* of the KVH Media Group on August 17, 2018, reported that FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force authorities raided an apartment in Sacramento, California, and arrested Iraqi refugee Omar Abdulsattar Ameen, 45, on a warrant for killing an Iraqi policeman while fighting for ISIS. The complaint said he and other ISIS members killed the officer after the town of Rawah, Iraq, fell to ISIS in June 2014. The warrant was issued in May 2018 by an Iraqi federal court in Baghdad. He was to be extradited to Iraq. He was represented by public defender Benjamin Galloway.

August 24: The U.S. Department of the Treasury imposed sanctions on ISIS members Mohamad Rafi Udin, Mohammed Karim Yusop Faiz and Mohammad Reza Lahaman Kiram who appeared in an ISIS video depicting the beheading of three people and accused of luring recruits in Southeast Asia. The U.N. Security Council sanctioned the trio the previous day.

- Udin was believed to be the most senior Malaysian ISIS leader in Syria. Treasury said he had been involved in terrorist activities since 1998. He was arrested and detained from 2003 to 2006 for fighting on behalf of Jemaah Islamiyah. He was sanctioned in 2005 for his suspected role in the Abu Sayyaf Group of the Philippines.

- Faiz, an Indonesian, went to Syria to join ISIS in 2014. He earlier was in prison in the Philippines for nine years on charges of illegal possession of explosives and weapons.

- Kiram was a member of a Philippines-based group that pledged alliance to ISIS. In June 2016, he appeared alongside Faiz and Udin in an ISIS beheading propaganda video. Philippine police alleged he was involved in a bus bombing in 2012 in Zamboanga, Philippines.

August 30: *CNN* and *AP* reported that federal law enforcement authorities arrested Robert Chain, 68, of Encino, California, for making threatening phone calls to the *Boston Globe* deeming journalists the "enemy of the people" and purveyors of "fake news." He said in one call that he would kill everyone at the paper on a specific date and time. He was charged with one count of making threatening com-

munications in interstate commerce; he faced five years in prison. The FBI said he made at least 14 threatening phone calls to the *Globe* beginning August 10, when the *Globe* announced that it was organizing a campaign for newspapers to respond collectively to Trump's repeated attempts to demonize the media. On August 13, he said, "We are going to shoot you ... in the head Shoot every ... one of you." And after the *Globe* published the coordinated editorial response on August 16, he threatened to shoot *Globe* staff in the head "later today, at 4 o'clock." "You're the enemy of the people, and we're going to kill every f—ing one of you Hey, why don't you call the F, why don't you call Mueller, maybe he can help you out, buddy." Chain owns several firearms, including a 9 mm carbine rifle he purchased in May. On August 22, a *Globe* employee asked Chain why he was calling. He replied, "Because you are the enemy of the people."

October 1: CNN reported that two suspicious envelopes addressed to Secretary of Defense James Mattis and to Chief of Naval Operations Admiral John Richardson initially tested positive for ricin. The mail facility is in a separate building on the grounds of the Pentagon. Authorities later said that the envelopes contained castor seeds, the base of the ricin toxin.

The next day, CNN reported that an envelope addressed to President Donald Trump was suspected to contain ricin. It never entered the White House. A letter was also sent to FBI Director Christopher Wray.

Military Times reported on October 3, 2018, that the Davis County Sheriff's Office arrested William Clyde Allen III. Allen, 39, a U.S. Navy veteran in Utah. Navy records indicated that he enlisted in October 1998 and left the service in October 2002 at the rank of E-2. He attended the Damage Controlman "A" school at Naval Station Great Lakes in Illinois. He was a damage control fireman apprentice, and put on that rank in March 2002. He served 17 months aboard the combat support ship *Supply*, and about 15 months aboard the support ship *Detroit*. Allen received a unit-wide Navy "E" ribbon commendation twice. He also was awarded a National Defense Service Medal and two Sea Service Deployment Ribbons. His official service record listed him as being discharged as an E-2, with a date of rank seven months prior to his discharge. He registered as an E-4, damage controlman 3rd class, on the 2001 crew roster of the *Detroit* on the website navysite.de. *Military Times* suggested that would indicate he was most likely busted twice before exiting the Navy on October 27, 2001. Law enforcement officials searched 308 N. 200 West Logan, Utah. The website "Counter Domestic Terrorism" alleged that Allen harassed female veterans online through

his *Facebook* account. His criminal record in Utah included child abuse and attempted aggravated assault.

AP and the *Florida Times-Union* reported on October 5, 2018, that Allen confessed to sending four envelopes containing the substance from which ricin is derived. He was held on a \$25,000 cash-only bond.

CNN reported on October 18, 2018, that federal authorities indicted Allen on seven counts, including mailing a threat against the President and was facing five counts of mailing threats to officers and employees of the U.S. It listed the officials threatened as Defense Secretary James Mattis, Chief of Naval Operations Admiral John Richardson, FBI Director Chris Wray, CIA Director Gina Haspel and Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson. Allen pleaded not guilty to all charges.

October 2: CNN reported that Naval Criminal Investigative Service Special Agent Leatrice Malika De Bruhl-Daniels, of Maryland, was arrested for obstructing a federal investigation and sharing classified information as part of a romantic relationship with a suspect in an FBI-run counterterrorism investigation. Court documents indicated that contacts at the State Department and the Department of Homeland Security warned her to "stay away" from Nadal Diya, a Syrian who was trying to obtain a tourist visa to the U.S. Prosecutors said she met Diya in June 2016 while she was working at the U.S. Consulate in Dubai and eventually not only told him about the investigations but also warned him he would be arrested if he traveled to the U.S. A detention hearing was scheduled for October 3 in Alexandria, Virginia. NCIS spokesman Adam Stump told the media, "Leatrice Malika De Bruhl-Daniels was employed at NCIS as a special agent since February 2010, but had been on indefinite suspension since May 2018. Her access to NCIS material and her security clearance were suspended. She was arrested without incident in Alexandria, Virginia, September 28. Daniels was stationed in Dubai June 2015 to April 2018." She was assigned a public defender.

Court documents said that after initial communications with a contact from the DHS in June 2016, she reached out to contacts at the State Department and DHS in early 2017 seeking more information about the investigations. She contacted a Homeland Security Investigations agent in Houston who had an active investigation into Diya related to "his possible involvement in the shipping of goods" from the U.S. to Iran in violation of U.S. export laws. While communicating with the HSI agent over a classified email system, she said she was interested in aiding the investigation and asked for guidance that could "assist me with further contact with him."

The affidavit noted that Diya threw an “extravagant birthday party” for her in March 2017 at his Dubai residence that was attended by NCIS and State Department employees, active Navy personnel, U.S. government contractors and close friends of Bruhl-Daniels who traveled from the U.S. to Dubai. Prosecutors said the party cost “tens of thousands” of dollars. She admitted to borrowing \$1,400 from Diya for a vacation to Greece, though she said she repaid him with alcohol and that her son began working for Diya’s company, earning \$3,000 in two months.

In June 2017, she emailed herself a message that prosecutors interpreted as “proclamations of love for Diya.” She allegedly wrote that she had become “deeply attracted” to Diya and acknowledged she was confused by her feelings for him. She added that she intended to “still fight for your visa situation as much as I can.” She later suggested Diya get an attorney and asked him to “keep me out of” the activity regarding the criminal investigation.

Prosecutors said that in an interview with investigators in December 2017, she failed to disclose her sexual relationship with Diya and that he had given her money and things of value.

In April 2018, she was moved from Dubai to Hawaii for a new assignment under which she would be part of a personal security detail for a high-ranking Navy official in Pacific Command. The assignment was canceled shortly after she arrived in Hawaii, due to issues with her security clearance. When she contacted NCIS officials in May 2018 asking for more information on why her assignment had been canceled, she disclosed the extent of her relationship with Diya and that they had texted since she moved to Hawaii. She admitted to having sexual encounters with Diya, accepting money and gifts from him, and warning him he could be arrested if he traveled to the U.S.

October 9: *CBS News New York* and *CNN* reported that Paul M. Rosenfeld, 56, of New York planned to publicize his “radical political beliefs” by blowing himself up on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., on Election Day. He supported sortition, which advocates for random selection of government officials. He bought large quantities black powder over the Internet to build a large bomb in his basement, and earlier made and tested other small bombs. FBI agents found in his home “what appeared to be a functional explosive device weighing approximately 200 pounds.” The criminal complaint said that he sent letters and text messages in August and September to someone in Pennsylvania outlining his plan. Prosecutors charged him with unlawfully manufacturing a destructive device and with interstate transportation and receipt of an explosive. Both carry a maximum sentence of ten years in prison.

CNN reported that Rosenfeld was pulled over while driving, and told law enforcement agents that he bought black powder online, brought it to his house in New York from New Jersey and made a bomb in his basement. Law enforcement also found a system built to trigger explosions in his home.

October 18: The *Long War Journal* reported that the U.S. Department of State announced rewards of \$5 million and \$10 million for information concerning two al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) leaders who attended al-Qaeda training camps in pre-9/11 Afghanistan before relocating to Yemen, where they eventually assumed leadership positions. They profess loyalty to Ayman al-Zawahiri.

Qasim al-Raymi, variant al-Rimi, became AQAP’s emir in June 2015 after his predecessor, Nasir al-Wuhayshi, was killed in an American drone strike. State reported that he “trained terrorists at an al-Qaeda camp in Afghanistan in the 1990’s.” He was born on June 5, 1978. He was a trainer at al-Qaeda’s al-Farouq camp in Afghanistan. His younger brother, Ali, was held at Guantanamo. He “was sentenced to five years in prison in 2005” for “plotting to assassinate the US Ambassador to Yemen.” Raymi and other al-Qaeda veterans escaped from prison in 2006. They revived AQAP in early 2009. Raymi earlier served as AQAP’s “military commander” and ran a training camp in Abyan. He was “linked” to the September 2008 attack on the U.S. Embassy in Sana’a and AQAP’s December 2009 plot to blow up a Detroit-bound airliner by Umar Farouq Abdulmutallab, the “underwear bomber.” He was first designated as a terrorist by the U.S. government in May 2010 and a reward offer of \$5 million was issued in October 2014. That reward was increased to \$10 million in October 2018.

Khalid Saeed al-Batarfi was an al-Farouq trainee upon arriving in Afghanistan in 1999. He “fought alongside the Taliban against US forces and the Northern Alliance” in 2001. In December 2016, the Taliban featured him in a video celebrating its alliance with al-Qaeda. He joined AQAP in 2010 and became a “senior member” of the organization in Hadramaut. State said he “led AQAP fighters in taking over Yemen’s Abyan Province, and was named AQAP’s emir of Abyan.” State called him a “former member of AQAP’s shura council.” Batarfi was imprisoned in Yemen, but was freed in 2015 during AQAP’s takeover of Mukallah.

October 22: *CNN* reported that police in Bedford, New York rendered safe a suspicious package containing a bomb in a mailbox that targeted billionaire investor, Holocaust survivor, and philanthropist George Soros, 88.

October 24: *CNN* reported on October 28 that a white man with a history of violence shot and killed two African-Americans, seemingly at random, at a

Kentucky Kroger store following a failed attempt to enter the predominantly black First Baptist Church in Jeffersonton, Kentucky, outside of Louisville. *WDRB* reported that Gregory Bush, 51, banged on the door, trying to pull it open. He then fired on two people, killing Maurice Stallard, 69, who was with his 12-year-old grandson buying a poster board for a school project, and Vickie Jones, 67, killed in the parking lot as Bush fled. Court records indicated that Bush had a history of mental illness, made racist threats and repeatedly called his ex-wife the N-word, according to court records. His lengthy criminal record included domestic violence. Bush faced potential civil rights violations, such as hate crimes.

October 24: *The Hill* reported that Naser Almadajji, 19, of Ohio, a U.S. citizen born in Iraq, was arrested and charged with attempting to provide material support for ISIS by attempting to travel to Kazakhstan and then Afghanistan, where he planned to fight for ISIS-aligned forces in the region. Assistant Attorney General John Demers said, "Naser Almadajji allegedly attempted to seek terrorist training in weapons and tactics and discussed a willingness to conduct terrorist 'projects' in the United States on behalf of foreign terrorist groups.... Protecting America from terrorist activity, including conduct like this, remains the highest priority of the Department of Justice." DOJ said that Almadajji traveled to Egypt and Jordan in February 2018, after which he reportedly began conversing online with someone he believed to be an ISIS recruiter. He sent the unnamed person a video of himself pledging allegiance to ISIS. He faced 20 years in federal prison.

October 24: *The Washington Post*, *AP*, and *CNN* reported that authorities intercepted pipe bombs in packages sent to

- Former President Barack Obama's home in Washington, D.C.
- Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's home in Chappaqua, New York. The package was received the night of October 23.
- Former Director of Central Intelligence John Brennan in care of *CNN*'s Manhattan office. James P. O'Neill, the New York City police commissioner, said the package contained an envelope with white powder, which investigators took for testing. *CNN* evacuated its offices for several hours. Brennan is an analyst on *MSNBC* and *NBC News*, not *CNN*. The letter was addressed to John "Brenan." The bomb was found at 9 a.m. in the 10 Columbus Circle mailroom.
- Former Attorney General Eric Holder. It was forwarded to the falsified return address for the Sunrise, Florida office of Representative Debbie Wasserman-Schultz. Her office in Aventura, Florida, was evacuated "in an abundance of caution."

- Representative Maxine Waters (D-California). The FBI said two devices were addressed to her.

- Representative Debbie Wasserman-Schultz (D-Florida), whose name was misspelled.

Authorities said the first two packages were virtually identical to what was placed in the Bedford, New York mailbox of philanthropist George Soros earlier in the week. The FBI said the packages were sent in manila envelopes with bubble wrap inside. They all had return addresses with the misspelled name of Debbie Wasserman-Schultz, along with address labels printed on a computer and six Forever stamps. The addresses were typed on stickers.

The Secret Service intercepted the Obama and Clinton packages at their mail screening facility away from the recipients' addresses.

Politicians deemed the mailings attempted terrorist attacks. President Trump said, "In these times, we have to unify. We have to come together and send one very clear, strong and unmistakable message that acts or threats of political violence of any kind have no place in the United States of America." White House press secretary Sarah Sanders added, "We condemn the attempted violent attacks recently made against President Obama, President Clinton, Secretary Clinton, and other public figures. These terrorizing acts are despicable, and anyone responsible will be held accountable to the fullest extent of the law." Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Kentucky) joined in "condemning today's attempted acts of domestic terrorism." New York Mayor Bill de Blasio (D) said, "This clearly is an act of terror, attempting to undermine our free press and leaders of this country through acts of violence."

Right-wing conspiracy theorists called it a liberal "false flag" hoax, finding the timing so near to the midterm elections "highly suspicious."

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo (D) said at a news briefing that a device sent to his Manhattan office was "being handled," although he did not elaborate on whether it was a suspicious package or contained an explosive. A New York police official later said that suspicious package was deemed to not be hazardous.

October 25: *CNN*, the *Washington Post*, and *NPR* reported that two devices were addressed to former Vice President Joe Biden's home in New Castle, Delaware and one to actor Robert DeNiro in New York City. Biden's packages were found in local post offices in New Castle and Wilmington. DeNiro's package was addressed him at Tribeca Productions, 375 Greenwich Street, and had the return address of Debbie Wasserman Shultz, 777 Saw Grass Corporate Parkway, Sunrise, Florida (sic) 33325. X-rays showed a similar device to the other packages. The

DeNiro device was found around 5 a.m. on the 7th floor of the building that houses Tribeca Productions. The bomb was transported in a heavily armored containment truck to Rodman's Neck, a peninsula in the Bronx where the NYPD explodes bombs.

President Donald Trump tweeted, "A very big part of the Anger we see today in our society is caused by the purposely false and inaccurate reporting of the Mainstream Media that I refer to as Fake News. It has gotten so bad and hateful that it is beyond description. Mainstream Media must clean up its act, FAST!"

October 26: CNN and NPR reported that a suspicious package addressed to Senator Cory Booker (D-New Jersey) was found in an Opa-Locka, Florida mail handling facility.

CNN reported that a suspicious package was found in a New York City mail handling facility, addressed to retired Director of National Intelligence General James Clapper c/o CNN.

CNN reported that authorities in Sacramento were investigating a package addressed to Senator Kamala Harris (D-California), making it the 13th improvised explosive device.

Another package was found addressed to billionaire Tom Steyer, who lobbied for Trump's impeachment, in Burlingame, California. It was not among the 13 listed by the Department of Justice.

Law enforcement officials said the devices were hidden in manila envelopes with bubble-wrapped interiors containing PVC pipes stuffed with what appeared to be fireworks powder and glass. Electrical wires leading out of the pipe led to an electric timer taped to the pipe. Most of the devices appeared to have been sent through the mail system, although some were couriered. Some had batteries. They all also had six Forever stamps, computer-printed address labels and return addresses with the misspelled name of Debbie Wasserman-Schultz, who chaired the Democratic National Committee during part of the 2016 presidential campaign. None of them detonated, giving investigators forensic evidence to examine. FBI Director Wray explained on October 26 that the devices consisted of "roughly six inches of PVC pipe, a small clock, a battery, some wiring and what is known as energetic material, which is essentially potential explosives and material that give off heat and energy through a reaction to heat, shock or friction."

At 3:14 a.m., the President tweeted, "Funny how lowly rated CNN, and others, can criticize me at will, even blaming me for the current spate of Bombs and ridiculously comparing this to September 11th and the Oklahoma City bombing, yet when I criticize them they go wild and scream, 'it's just not Presidential!'" He later referred to "this 'bomb'

stuff" taking attention away from the upcoming election and complained that critics were saying that his rhetoric was radicalizing domestic right-wing terrorists.

The *Washington Post* and CNN reported that later that day, authorities arrested Cesar Altieri Sayoc, 56, at an AutoZone parking lot in Plantation, Florida, in connection with the mail bombs. He had an Aventura/Davie, Florida, address and had ties to New York. He was registered as a Republican. He had a lengthy criminal record in the state, with eight arrests, including a 2002 arrest in Miami for a bomb threat and others for grand theft, larceny, drug possession, fraud and multiple probation violations. His record included:

- 2014—grand theft and misdemeanor theft
- 2013—battery
- 2004—several felony charges for unlawful possession of synthetic anabolic steroids.
- 2002—arrested and served a year of probation for a felony charge of threatening to throw or place a bomb. He pleaded guilty to the 2002 felony without a trial.
- 1990s—several arrests for theft and faced a felony charge for obtaining fraudulent refunds and a misdemeanor count of tampering with physical evidence.

Using the handle Julius Cesar Milan, he also threatened former CIA and FBI officer Phil Mudd and his family on *Twitter*, saying "Phil Mudd your next no way out. Hug your loved ones everytime you leave your home. Your timing coming—We answer threats not option" The posting included several graphics similar to the stickers on a van believed linked to Sayoc, along with a logo for The Unconquered Seminoles of Florida.

He filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy in 2012, listing \$4,175 in personal property and more than \$21,000 in debts.

WPLG-TV reported that a van parked in Plantation that federal agents and police officers examined in connection with the case sported numerous stickers obscuring the windows, including American flags, decals with logos and text. Decals included pro-Trump/Pence labels and a "CNN Sucks" sentiment. The van's decals included the names and photos of dozens of prominent Democrats and media figures—former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, former first lady Michelle Obama, former attorneys general Eric Holder and Loretta E. Lynch, Senator Elizabeth Warren, filmmaker Michael Moore, and "Meet the Press" host Chuck Todd. Some of the photos of people had red x's through them. Law enforcement authorities draped a blue tarp over it, loaded it onto a truck, and drove it away.

FBI Director Christopher Wray said that Sayoc's

latent fingerprint was found on an envelope on the package sent to Rep. Maxine Waters. *CNN* reported that DNA found on at least one of the packages helped investigators identify Sayoc and that investigators used his cell phone to track him.

Attorney General Jeff Sessions said at a Department of Justice press conference that Sayoc faced 58 years in prison on five federal charges:

- Interstate transportation of an explosive
- Illegal mailing of explosives
- Threats against former presidents and other persons
- Threatening interstate communications
- Assaulting current and former federal officers

Miami-Dade County jail booking records noted that Sayoc called Florida Power and Light and threatened to blow up the local electric utility. Sayoc said “it would be worse than Sept. 11” and threatened that something would happen to the FPL representative he was talking to if the utility cut his electricity. A court filing indicated that he declared bankruptcy in 2012, and that he lived with his mother at that time. *CNN* reported that he was arrested on April 10, 1999 for possession of a stolen vehicle and for stealing copper pipes from a Florida Home Depot in 2014. In a lawsuit, he claimed he had been a manager at a strip club called Stir Crazy for 35 years and was a pro wrestler, a Chippendales dancer, a professional soccer player in Milan, and an arena football player in Arizona. He also dj’d at Ultra Gentlemen’s Club. He was often represented by attorney Daniel Aaronson, a Democrat, who said Sayoc was earlier charged with grand theft for taking a suit from a department store, and charged with theft after going through the checkout line at a store and leaving with an item in his shopping cart that he had not presented to the cashier. In that instance, according to Aaronson, “When he got arrested, they charged him with battery on the store detective.”

He claimed to be a Seminole; a *CNN* commentator said he was half-Filipino. *Metro.co.uk* called him a Native American Trump Supporter from Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The site said online records listed him as owning Proud Native America One Low Price Drycleaning and Native American Catering and Vending.

Sayoc’s apparent social media profiles included conspiracy theories and antipathy toward liberals. His apparent *Twitter* account mentioned George Soros 34 times, Barack Obama 29 times and Hillary Clinton 21 times. He said of former Attorney General Holder, “This man murdered for political reasons and got away with it.”

The Brevard College, North Carolina, yearbook indicated that he played for the soccer team and be-

longed to the Canterbury Club, a religious organization.

CNN reported that Sayoc had been kicked out by his parents and was living in the van, which was taken to an FBI facility in Miramar, Florida. The FBI agents used flash bangs in making the arrest. He was initially somewhat cooperative, telling investigators that the pipe bombs would not have caused harm.

At his arraignment, authorities said he had a list of 100 potential targets. He had searched for their addresses online.

The *New York Times* reported that Sayoc’s father abandoned the family in Sayoc’s childhood.

On November 9, 2018, federal prosecutors in New York secured a 30-count indictment against Cesar Sayoc, bringing charges more severe and more numerous than those he previously faced. He now faced a possible life sentence for five counts of using a weapon of mass destruction, five counts of illegal mailing of explosives, and five counts of threatening interstate communications. Authorities believe he was responsible for the 16 package bombs. FBI Director Christopher A. Wray said the bombs were not hoaxes.

October 27: The *Washington Post* and *CNN* reported that at 9:45 a.m., a gunman yelled anti-Semitic statements such as “I want to kill all the Jews!” and fired a semiautomatic AR-15-type assault-style rifle into the Tree of Life Synagogue in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood of Pittsburgh during a baby-naming *bris* ceremony at Shabbat services, killing eleven people and injuring six people, including four police officers, one in the hand, in the deadliest attack on Jews in the history of the United States. Police radio traffic indicated that the suspect spoke several times of killing Jews and had multiple pistols on his person.

Police received calls about an active shooter at 9:54 a.m. and dispatched officers a minute later. The gunman left the building and encountered the responding officers, shooting one before retreating into the synagogue to hide. More officers responded and, after an exchange of gunfire, the gunman suffered multiple gunshot wounds, surrendered around 11 a.m., was arrested and was taken to a hospital. *KDKA* reported that three officers were injured in the standoff. He had three .357 Glock handguns, including a pistol on his ankle and another in his waistband.

The Tree of Life synagogue, located in a leafy residential enclave near Carnegie Mellon University, is Pittsburgh’s oldest Jewish congregation.

The dead were identified by *AP*, *CNN*, and *Buzzfeed* as:

- Joyce Fienberg, 75, of the Oakland neighborhood, Pittsburgh, was a research specialist at the

Learning Research and Development Center at the University of Pittsburgh from 1983 to 2008. She and her late husband, an internationally acclaimed professor of statistics and social science at Carnegie Mellon University, were married at the temple.

- Richard Gottfried, 65, of Ross Township, Pennsylvania, opened a dental practice with his wife, Peg Durachko, in 1984. In 1996, the couple joined the local Discovery Study Club of dentists and specialists who offer educational lectures and workshops. Gottfried, who was Jewish, and Durachko, a Catholic, helped prepare other couples for marriage through the St. Athanasius church. He graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 1974. He competed in the Pittsburgh Great Race 28 times.

- Rose Mallinger, 97, of Squirrel Hill neighborhood, Pittsburgh, a former school secretary, had three grandchildren. Her daughter was injured in the attack.

- Dr. Jerry Rabinowitz, 66, of Edgewood Borough, Pennsylvania, was a primary care physician in practice with his friend, Dr. Kenneth Ciesielka, at UPMC Shadyside more than 30 years.

- Brothers Cecil and David Rosenthal, 59 and 54, of Squirrel Hill, Pittsburgh. David worked for Goodwill Industries. Cecil had been an active member of Best Buddies, a nonprofit group that works to enhance the lives of people with intellectual disabilities by pairing them with friends. The brothers, who had intellectual disabilities, shared an apartment, according to Achieva, which worked with them.

- Bernice and Sylvan Simon, 84 and 86, from Wilkensburg, Pennsylvania, were married for more than 53 years. They announced their engagement in April 1965. When one of their sons, Martin, 48, died in a motorcycle accident in 2010, the family asked for contributions in his memory to be made to the Tree of Life. She liked to bake cranberry breads. The couple had a pug named Max.

- Daniel Stein, 71, of Squirrel Hill, Pittsburgh, was a retired grandfather.

- Melvin Wax, 88, of Squirrel Hill, Pittsburgh, who helped friends with their taxes and wrote for a *Random Acts of Kindness* column for the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*.

- Irving Younger, 69, of Pittsburgh's Mount Washington neighborhood, ran a real estate company in Squirrel Hill for several years, and was a volunteer youth baseball coach. He was an usher at his synagogue.

AP identified the suspect as Robert D. Bowers, 46, a Baldwin, Pennsylvania, resident who the FBI said was not previously known to law enforcement.

He was charged with 29 counts of federal crimes of violence and firearms offenses, including obstructing exercise of religious beliefs resulting in death, using a firearm to commit murder during a crime of violence, obstructing exercise of religious beliefs resulting in an injury to a public safety officer and using a firearm during a crime of violence.

Bowers posted anti-Semitic statements on social media before the shooting, expressing anger that a nonprofit Jewish organization in the neighborhood has helped refugees settle in the United States. Hours before the attack, he wrote: "I can't sit by and watch my people get slaughtered. Screw your optics, I'm going in."

In condemning the attack, President Trump said the massacre could have been prevented if the synagogue had armed security guards. Attorney General Jeff Sessions said the Justice Department will file hate crime and other charges "that could lead to the death penalty."

Gab, a social media platform that attracted many far-right users, suspended an account that matched Bowers's name, turning the messages over to the FBI. The postings included attacks on Jews, references to white supremacist and neo-Nazi symbols, and attacks on the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS), which works with the federal government to resettle refugees in American communities. Bowers's biography on the site read "jews are the children of satan" and his background photo was a radar gun reading "1488," a popular white supremacist symbol. He railed against HIAS efforts to hold Shabbat services for refugees.

Bowers had an active license to carry firearms and made at least six firearm purchases since 1996. On September 29, 2018, Bowers posted photos of his handgun collection on his Gab.com account. He posted that those in the migrant caravans were violent because they were attempting to leave countries that had high levels of violence. "I have noticed a change in people saying 'illegals' that now say 'invaders' ... I like this." He also claimed that President Trump was surrounded by too many Jewish people. "Trump is surrounded by k****," "things will stay the course." He complained, "Trump is a globalist, not a nationalist." "There is no #MAGA as long as there is a k*** infestation." Bowers posted that he did not vote for Trump.

CNN reported that he was cited in 2015 for allegedly driving without tags.

On October 31, Bowers was charged in a 44-count indictment accusing him of federal hate crimes. He had told arresting officers that he wanted to "kill Jews." Federal prosecutors said they would seek the death penalty, pending review by the Attorney General. He also faced state charges, including 11 counts of criminal homicide. On November 1, Bowers pleaded not guilty to federal charges.

Bowers was represented by federal public defender Michael Novara.

October 29: A 15th package bomb, addressed to CNN's worldwide headquarters in Atlanta, was intercepted at an Atlanta post office at 9:38 a.m.

October 29: *Military Times* reported that the U.S. released a dual American-Saudi citizen who was suspected of working with ISIS and was detained in Iraq by the U.S. military since October 2017 without charge. The *New York Times* said he was released in Bahrain. He once lived and studied in Louisiana. He and his wife have a young daughter. The American Civil Liberties Union had filed an emergency request in June 2018 to block the government's plan to release him in Syria. U.S. authorities said that when he surrendered in mid-September 2017 to U.S.-backed Syrian Democratic Forces, he was carrying thumb drives containing thousands of files. There were 10,000+ photos, some of pages of military-style manuals. There were files on how to make specific types of bombs.

October 29: A gunman fired at least four bullets into the Volusia County Republican Party office in a small strip mall in South Daytona, Florida, which was empty at the time. South Daytona Police Captain Mark Cheatham said that no one was injured. Police believed that the shooting occurred between 4 p.m. on October 28, the last time a person was at the office, and 9 a.m. on October 29. Tony Ledbetter, chairman of the Volusia County Republican Party, told the *Washington Post* "That's the only people who would do this.... The sick Democrats."

November 1: CNN reported that a package resembling the earlier package bombs allegedly sent by Cesar Sayoc was recovered during the night. The FBI tweeted that it was addressed to Democratic billionaire Tom Steyer in California. USPS told his organization, The Next Generation, about the suspicious package. An earlier mail bomb had been sent to Steyer.

November 13: The *Washington Post* quoted FBI reports that hate crimes in 2017 were up 17 percent to 7,175 incidents, compared to the 6,121 in 2016. Roughly 60 percent targeted a person's race or ethnicity; 20 percent targeted their religion. The breakdown of incidents included:

- 2,013 against black Americans
- 1,130 against people for their sexual orientation
- 938 against Jewish Americans

More than 4,000 were crimes against people, including threats, intimidation, assault, and murder. More than 3,000 were crimes against property, such as vandalism, robbery, and arson.

The State Department announced that it had

designated Jawad Nasrallah, son of Hizballah leader Hasan Nasrallah, a terrorist and accused him of trying to "activate a suicide bombing and shooting cell based in the West Bank" in January 2016. The Department also designated al-Mujahidin Brigades (AMB), which it accused of plotting attacks in Israel and cultivating ties to Hizballah. The Administration also announced new sanctions against Hizballah, denying it and AMB access to the U.S. financial system. State offered rewards of up to \$5 million each for information leading to the identification or location of Hizballah leaders Khalil Yusif Mahmoud Harb and Haytham Ali Tabataba'i, and Hamas leader Salih al-Aruri.

November 14: Police in Lake Helen, Florida searched a home at 292 W. Pennsylvania Avenue at 3:30 p.m., and found a Mason jar containing triacetone triperoxide (TATP), an explosive chemical used to make bombs that al-Qaeda called the "mother of Satan," plus other bomb-making materials. Jared Coburn, 37, claimed he was making fireworks. Police called in the Volusia County Sheriff's Office for assistance in handling the bomb. Coburn was charged with manufacturing an explosive device. Coburn worked as a parachute packer.

November 20: *AFP* reported that the United States Department of State announced that Hajji Abdel Nasir, a confidant of ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, had been named a "Specially Designated Global Terrorist." The UN Security Council put Abdel Nasir on its sanctions list. He was subject to an international asset freeze, travel ban and arms embargo. U.S. citizens and entities were prohibited from doing business with him. State said he "has held several leadership positions in the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria," including heading the group's "Delegated Committee," which reports to al-Baghdadi and "exercises administrative control of the terrorist organization's affairs." The Committee was "responsible for planning and issuing orders related to ISIS's military operations, tax collections, religious police, and commercial and security operations."

December 7: The *Washington Post* reported that the FBI arrested Damon M. Joseph, 21, of Holland, Ohio, on charges of attempting to provide material support to ISIS by planning an attack on a synagogue in Toledo after the Pittsburgh massacre of 11 congregants in a synagogue. The U.S. Attorney's Office in Ohio's Northern District said that Joseph posted photographs of weapons and messages in support of ISIS on his social media accounts. Undercover FBI agents corresponded with Joseph, who said he supported ISIS and made propaganda "in support of ISIS recruitment," which included videos to recruit people. He also expressed support for "martyrdom operations," that "what must be

done, must be done” and that “there will always be casualties of war.” He told an undercover agent that regarding the Pittsburgh gunman, he “admire[d] what the guy did with the shooting.” “I can see myself carrying out this type of operation inshallah They wouldn’t even expect in my area.” On December 2, he sent a document showing his plans for an attack where a large number of people were gathered to inflict the most casualties. On December 4, he claimed to be deciding between two Toledo area synagogues, saying the choice depended on “which one will have the most people, what time and what day. Go big or go home.” He said he wanted to kill a rabbi. On December 7, he met took from an undercover agent a black duffel bag containing two semiautomatic rifles that had been rendered inoperable. Agents then arrested him.

December 8: The U.S. attorney’s office in the Northern District of Ohio announced the arrest of Elizabeth Lecron, 23, and charged her with transporting explosives and explosive material for the purposes of harming others and property. She had said she wanted to commit a mass murder in the area. The *Washington Post* reported that she had purchased black powder and hundreds of screws for a pipe bomb and wrote letters and sent Nazi propaganda to Charleston church shooter Dylann Roof, 24. She had posted “voluminous” numbers of pictures of the Columbine shooters and Roof on the photo-sharing site *Tumblr*. After the service closed her account, she opened a new one, “CharlestonChurchMiracle,” which featured photos and GIFs of mass murderers like Ted Bundy, Nikolas Cruz and Adam Lanza. She and an associate had flown to Denver to visit Columbine High School. The FBI said she planned to commit an “upscale mass murder” at a Toledo bar, which she allegedly told an informant had only two exits, which would be a tactical advantage when officers arrived. Investigators said that she wanted to form a team of anarchists and possibly damage a livestock farm to set the animals free. She told an undercover agent that her workplace could also be a target. On December 8, she entered a sporting-goods store and bought two pounds of Hodgdon Triple Seven Muzzleloading Propellant. At another store in Perrysburg she bought 665 screws, some as long as three inches.

December 13: *CNN* reported that bomb threats were e-mailed to numerous locations in 25 states and Washington, D.C., including at

- nearly 20 locations throughout San Francisco
- the University of Washington in Seattle
- Penn State University in Pennsylvania
- a business in Oklahoma City
- the Thurston County Courthouse in Olympia, Washington

- the *Park Record* newspaper in Park City, Utah
- 36 locations in Chicago
- several locations in Riverside, California
- several locations in New York City and Atlanta
- a location in Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- the Science Center of Iowa in Des Moines, leading to the evacuation of hundreds of children
- the *Charlotte News & Observer* and the *Raleigh News & Observer* newspapers in North Carolina
- a location on 17th and K Streets in Washington, D.C.
- three sites in Miami

plus to locations in Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

Most emails warned that a hidden bomb would detonate unless the sender received a \$20,000 Bitcoin ransom. One cited by *CNN* read:

From (blacked out)
Sent: December 13, 2018 12:05 PM
To: (blacked out)
Subject:—SPAM—My device is inside your building

Hello. I write you to inform you that my man carried the explosive device (lead azide) into the building where your company is conducted. It was built according to my guide. It can be hidden anywhere because of its small size, it is impossible to destroy the structure of the building by my explosive device, but if it explodes there will be many wounded people.

My mercenary is controlling the situation around the building. If he notices any suspicious behavior, panic or emergency he will power the bomb.

I can withdraw my recruited person if you make a transfer, \$20,000 is the price for your life and business. Pay it to me in BTC and I assure that I have to withdraw my recruited person and the bomb won’t detonate. But do not try to cheat—my assurance will become valid only after 3 confirms in blockchain network.

Here is my Bitcoin address: (blacked out)

You have to solve problems with the transfer by the end of the workday. If you are late with the money the device will explode.

Nothing person this is just a business, if you don’t transfer me the bitcoins and the bomb detonates, next time other commercial enterprises will pay me a lot more, because it isn’t a one-time action

For my safety, I will no longer enter this email account. I check my address every 35 min and if I see the payment I will give the command to my mercenary to get away.

If an explosion occurred and the authorities not this email- We aren’t a terrorist society and don’t take liability for acts of terrorism in other buildings.”

CNN reported that similar apparent hoaxes had been sent to a dozen states since August 2018.

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APPENDIX: UPDATES OF PRE-2018 INCIDENTS

Africa

Congo

March 2017: On December 7, 2018, Swedish public broadcaster *SVT* reported Congolese Colonel Jean de Dieu Mambweni was arrested during an inquiry into the March 2017 killing of two U.N. experts in Kananga. He had not acknowledged having a meeting two days before their deaths with American Michael Sharp and Swedish national Zaida Catalan. A recording indicated that Mambweni was in contact with an unnamed person who lured the experts to the place where they were killed. Congo earlier blamed the killings on the Kamwina Nsapu militia active in the central Kasai provinces. Rights groups said security forces may have been involved.

On December 19, 2018, *SVT* reported that a confidential United Nations report said a key witness to the murder was poisoned while in custody. Insecticide was found in the stomach of Tshikele Kengayi, who was found dead in his military cell in Congo on October 23.

Kenya

2016: On February 16, 2018, Haniya Saggar, wife of slain Muslim cleric Sheik Aboud Rogo, was sentenced to 10 years in prison for the attack by three women on a police station in Mombasa in 2016. She was found guilty of facilitating the women, who police said petrol-bombed the station and stabbed an officer before being shot dead. Rogo had been arrested in connection with the 1998 U.S. Embassy bombings in Kenya and Dar es Salaam that left over 200 people dead but was never convicted. He was shot dead in 2012 by suspected government agents.

Mali

November 20, 2015: *Marine Corps Times* reported on April 6, 2018, that a Marine Raider with the 3rd

Marine Raider Battalion out of Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, was awarded the Silver Star, the nation's third-highest award for valor, for heroic actions that led to the rescue of dozens of hostages during the November 2015 AQIM terrorist attack on the Raddison Blu hotel in Bamako, Mali. He was serving as a senior leader with the American commando force.

2016: On June 13, 2018, *AP* reported al-Qaeda's Mali branch (JNIM) released a proof-of-life video on *Telegram* showing footage of two female hostages abducted in separate incidents and held for more than a year. Colombian nun Gloria Cecilia Narvaez was shown caring for French aid worker Sophie Petronin, who was kidnapped in late 2016 in Gao, Mali. Narvaez was seized near Mali's border with Burkina Faso in February 2017. Petronin said that the video was recorded on June 7, 2018, wanted to reunite with her family, and told the French government that she feared being sacrificed. Narvaez thanked Pope Francis for his interest in her case and asking him to help intervene to help the ailing Petronin. In January 2018, JNIM released a video of Narvaez with an extremist narrating an appeal for the payment for her release. The last video of Petronin was released in July 2017 alongside five other foreign hostages. Narvaez was also in that video.

February 7, 2017: On January 29, 2018, AQIM released a video of Colombian missionary nun Gloria Cecilia Narvaez, who was kidnapped on February 7, 2017, near the border with Burkina Faso. She was shown in another proof-of-life video in July 2017 with five others. In the new video, she appealed to Pope Francis, her family and her mission leader. A narrator from Nusrat al-Islam wal Muslimeen advised the family to contribute money to secure her release, observing that other hostages were freed with contributions via independent charities.

Mozambique

October 2017: Jihadis were suspected when gunmen killed police in an attack in Mocimboa da Praia.

Niger

October 4, 2017: On January 13, 2018, *AP* and the *Mauritanian Nouakchott News Agency* reported that the self-professed IS affiliate member Abu al-Walid al-Sahrawi claimed responsibility for the attack that killed four U.S. soldiers and four Nigerien troops, a January 11, 2018, attack on a French military convoy, and a series of attacks in Niger and border areas with Mali and Burkina Faso.

AP reported on March 5, 2018, that the Islamic State released a nine-minute video that allegedly showed three U.S. soldiers being attacked. The video had circulated for months among journalists. The video began with a pledge of allegiance to ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi by members of Jamaat Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimin, which is led by Adnan Abu Walid al-Sahraoui. Until 2011, Sahraoui was a senior al-Qaeda operative. In 2012, he helped create Jamaat Nusrat. In 2015, he swore loyalty to ISIS in a video.

On April 17, 2018, *AP* reported that Niger's military detained a suspect believed to be the militant leader who was being pursued when an ambush by ISIS Greater Sahara forces left four American soldiers dead in October 4, 2017. At the time of the October ambush, U.S. and Nigerien forces were pursuing Doundou Chefou, a jihadi suspected of involvement in the kidnapping of an American aid worker.

The *New York Times* reported on May 29, 2018, that the U.S. government had identified three ISIS in the Greater Sahara leaders who had planned and directed the ambush. The U.S. Department of State designated the group a foreign terrorist organization in mid-May. Doundou Cheffou, whereabouts unknown, was most likely alive; Tinka ag Almouner and Al Mahmoud ag Baye, the latter believed to have trailed the team of Americans until shortly before they were attacked, were killed in the ambush against Operation Desolate Bastion. ISIS-GS is led by Adnan Abu Walid al-Sahraoui. Cheffou was linked to the kidnapping of U.S. aid worker Jeffery Woodke in Niger. The Pentagon initially code named Cheffou as Objective Naylor Road; he since was renamed Objective Urchin Reef.

Army Times and the *New York Times* reported on November 4, 2018, that Air Force Major General Marcus Hicks, who was the commander of all special operations troops in Africa, and two members of the 11-man Army Green Beret team were punished for the Niger ambush that killed four U.S. soldiers and four Nigerien soldiers. Three others in the team's chain of command also were reprimanded.

Those punished included Captain Mike Perozeni, the Green Beret team leader, and his second in command, a master sergeant. They faced reprimands over their planning and team training prior to the mission. A letter of reprimand given to Perozeni cited the team's insufficient training and a lack of mission rehearsals. The two senior officers who approved the mission and oversaw the operation were not reprimanded. Hicks was reprimanded for not having appropriate oversight of the officers below him.

The Americans who were killed were Staff Sergeant Bryan Black, 35, of Puyallup, Washington; Sergeant 1st Class Jeremiah Johnson, 39, of Springboro, Ohio; Sergeant La David Johnson of Miami Gardens, Florida; and Staff Sergeant Dustin M. Wright, 29, of Lyons, Georgia.

Nigeria

April 14, 2014: On January 4, 2018, *AP* reported that kidnapped Chibok schoolgirl Salomi Pogu, a non-Chibok girl, 14, and a young child were found near Pulka village in Borno State. Pogu was #86 on the list of hostages. More than 100 remained captives.

On January 15, 2018, *AP* reported that Boko Haram released a video purportedly showing some Chibok girls vowing to never return home. Several young women in the new video are shown with children, possibly their babies from BH rapists.

Somalia

August 2008: *AP* reported on March 28, 2018, that former Canadian freelance journalist Amanda Lindhout said she suffers from crippling flashbacks and sometimes wakes up screaming due to her kidnapping in Somalia. She testified at the sentencing hearing on March 28 of hostage-taker Somali national Ali Omar Ader, 40, citing sexual assault, beatings and emotional trauma. She and Australian photographer Nigel Brennan were seized near Mogadishu in August 2008. They were released in November 2009 in exchange for a ransom payment. Her story was published in *A House in the Sky*. Ader faced life in prison after being convicted of hostage-taking in 2017. Ontario Superior Court Justice Robert Smith called Ader a "willing participant" in the kidnapping.

October 14, 2017: On February 6, 2018, the chief of a Somali military court, General Hassan Ali Shute, announced a death sentence for Hassan Aden Isak for coordinating the October 14, 2017, bombing in Mogadishu that killed 512 people. The court convicted Abdullahi Ibrahim of being a member of al-Shabaab and sentenced him to life in prison. Abdiweli Ahmed Diriye was convicted of allowing the truck to pass uninspected through secu-

city checkpoints and received three years in prison. Mukhtar Mohamud Hassan and Abdul Abdi Warsame were acquitted of their charges and ordered released. The government blamed al-Shabaab for the bombing.

Asia

Bangladesh

August 21, 2004: *AP* reported on October 10, 2018, that Judge Shahed Nuruddin of a Dhaka court sentenced 19 people to death and the son of the opposition leader to life imprisonment for a 2004 grenade attack at a Awami League party political rally held by current Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina that killed two dozen people and wounded about 300 others. Hasina narrowly escaped. The 49 defendants faced multiple charges. Lutfuzzaman Babar was one of two former Cabinet ministers sentenced to death. Tarique Rahman, the oldest son of opposition leader Khaleda Zia, received a life sentence for each of two conspiracy charges stemming from the attack. He lives in London and was tried in absentia. Eighteen others were also sentenced to life imprisonment, and eleven received six months to two years in prison.

Indonesia

2016: On February 15, 2018, the trial began of radical cleric Oman Rohman, alias Aman Abdurrahman, for ordering a 2016 suicide bombing and gun attack in Jakarta that killed eight people including the four attackers. Police said he was the principal Indonesian translator for IS propaganda and the spiritual leader of Jemaah Anshorut Daulah. The five-judge panel appointed a lawyer for him.

Japan

March 20, 1995: On January 22, 2018, *AP* reported that the Japanese Supreme Court rejected an appeal the previous week of the death sentences of 13 member of Aum Shin Rikyo, including cult leader Shoko Asahara, true name Chizuo Matsumoto, 62, for several attacks, including the sarin gas attack on the Tokyo subway that killed 13 people and injured more than 6,000. It was not announced when the sentences would be carried out. The court upheld the life sentence of Katsuya Takahashi, a driver in the attack who was convicted of murder in 2015.

On July 6, 2018, Japan executed by hanging Aum Shin Rikyo cult leader Shoko Asahara, 63, and six of his lieutenants for the March 20, 1995, sarin gas attack on the Tokyo subway. He was the first to be executed of 13 Aum members sentenced to death. His 2004 death sentence was upheld by the

Supreme Court in 2006. A final appeal failed in January 2018.

Also executed were:

- Dr. Tomomasa Nakagawa, 55, who helped Aum produce sarin and VX nerve agents. He was convicted in 11 crimes in which more than 20 people were killed.
- Masami Tsuchiya, 53, a chemist who studied at the Tsukuba University graduate school, and joined Aum in 1991 through a yoga class he took as treatment for whiplash he suffered in a car accident. He headed the cult's sarin development and production and was convicted for producing sarin, VX and other chemical weapons.
- Seichi Endo, 58, who graduated from a Hokkaido veterinary school and studied virus and genetic engineering at Kyoto University graduate school. He worked on sarin and botulism, and was convicted in two sarin attacks and an attempted VX attack.
- Yoshihiro Inoue, 48, the "genius of training," Asahara's deputy, and intelligence chief who coordinated the subway attacks.
- Tomomitsu Niimi, 54, led a group that captured escaping cult members, and was a getaway driver for the subway attacks. He said the attacks were "murders based on religious intent."
- Kiyohide Hayakawa, 68, joined Aum in 1987. He had earned a master's degree in city engineering and worked in a major construction company. He was interested in pseudoscience and UFOs. As "construction minister," Hayakawa handled land acquisition and expansion. He ran an attempt to manufacture machine guns and buy weapons and a helicopter via Russia. He was convicted in the 1989 murders of an anti-Aum lawyer and his family.

Reuters, *AP*, and *CNN* reported on July 25, 2018, that Japan executed by hanging a second tranche of six Aum members:

- Satoru Hashimoto, 51, was implicated in ten murders committed by the group, including the November 1989 murder of attorney Tsutsumi Sakamoto, his wife, and child, and the central Japan gas attack. He served in an Aum assault unit, using his experience in karate. He was one of six cultists who strangled Sakamoto's family to death and he also drove a vehicle to spray sarin in Matsumoto in 1994, an attack that killed eight people and preceded the Tokyo subway attack.
- Yasuo Hayashi, 60, joined the group in 1988 after reading Asahara's book. He served as Asahara's bodyguard. He carried three bags of sarin on the Hibiya subway line in the Tokyo sarin gas attack and was involved in other attacks in central Japan. He was arrested on the southern resort island of Ishigaki in 1996.

- Kenichi Hirose, 54, released sarin on the Marunouchi subway line in the Tokyo attack. He was involved in another sarin attack in central Japan and other murders committed by the group, as well as the production of weapons and deadly chemicals. He and was convicted for the Tokyo attack and for illegal weapons production. He earned a bachelor's degree in applied physics at Waseda University and studied superconductivity at graduate school. He declined a job offer at a company to join Aum.

- Kazuaki Okazaki, 57, one of the first people to join Aum, was instrumental in expanding its membership and was implicated in some of Aum's earliest killings, including of lawyer Sakamoto and his family, as well as a follower who tried to leave the cult in 1989. He graduated from an industrial high school and worked at construction sites before donating all his savings to Aum and moving to its commune in 1986. He fled the group after the 1989 killing of the Sakamotos and surrendered in 1995. He was the first cultist to be sentenced to death in 1998 for the murders of the lawyer's family and other cult crimes.

- Toru Toyoda, 50, released sarin on the Hibiya subway line in the Tokyo attack. He participated in another sarin attack in central Japan and other murders committed by the group, as well as production of weapons and deadly chemicals. He earned a master's degree in physics at the University of Tokyo. He joined Aum in 1992 and engaged in weapons research and development. He pleaded guilty in his trial, and said he did not deserve to have lived.

- Masato Yokoyama, 55, carried sarin in a plastic bag into the Marunouchi subway line in the Tokyo attack, seriously injuring 200 people. He was also involved in another sarin attack in central Japan and other murders committed by the group, as well as the production of weapons and deadly chemicals. He had studied applied physics at Tokai University and worked at an electronics company before joining Aum in 1989, when he was assigned to produce machine guns.

Malaysia

March 8, 2014: The *Washington Post* reported on July 31, 2018, that a Malaysian investigation suggested that the 2014 crash of Malaysian Airlines flight 370, a B-777 that disappeared without a trace, could have been intentional. Some 239 people died. Many observers had suggested that Captain Zaharie Ahmad Shah was committing suicide. Authorities discounted a claim of responsibility by the Chinese Martyrs' Brigade.

November 5, 2016: On January 20, 2018, *AP* reported that Abu Sayyaf released two Indonesian

fishermen, La Utu bin Raali and La Hadi bi La Adi, from the Wakatobi islands in Southeast Sulawesi in Sulu Province. They were kidnapped on November 5, 2016, from different fishing boats off Sabah, Malaysia.

Myanmar

August 25, 2017: The Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) attacked 30 Myanmar security posts.

August 26, 2017: *UPI* reported on May 22, 2018, that Amnesty International Crisis Response Director Tirana Hassan indicated that the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army group of Rohingya Muslim militants killed 99–100 Hindu civilians in one, or possibly two massacres, in August 2017 at the Hindu village of Ah Nauk Kha Maung in northern Rakhine State. ARSA members attacked Seik, then robbed, bound, blindfolded and executed 53 people, including twenty men, ten women, and 23 children, including 14 under the age of eight. Elsewhere, 46 Hindu men, women, and children in the neighboring village of Ye Bauk Kyar disappeared. The bodies of 45 people from Ah Nauk Kha Maung Seik were found in mass graves in September 2017. The Ye Bauk Kyar victims remained missing.

Pakistan

October 2017: *AP* reported on January 6, 2018, that Qazi Mohammad Nabi Ahmadi, the deputy governor of Afghanistan's eastern Kunar Province, who was kidnapped while visiting a doctor in Peshawar in October 2017, was freed by his captors and returned home to Kunar. No one claimed credit. He is a member of the Hezb-e-Islami party of Gulbuddin Hekmatyar. His brother, Habibullah, who was also abducted, remained missing. The family had been approached for ransom; it was not disclosed whether it was paid.

Philippines

March 2000: On December 14, 2018, the Regional Trial Court branch 261 found 66 alleged members of Abu Sayyaf guilty of kidnapping 52 students, teachers and a Catholic priest on Basilan island in the south in March 2000. The court acquitted 20 others who had been jailed several years. The terrorists beheaded two kidnapped teachers; a priest died in captivity. Nearly 100 people were charged in the kidnappings.

January 2017: On September 16, 2018, *AP* reported that suspected Abu Sayyaf kidnappers released in Jolo, Sulu three Indonesians—Hamdam Salim, Subandi Sattuh, and Sudarlan Samansung—who had been held in Philippine jungle hideouts since being kidnapped at sea off Malaysia's Sabah state on

Borneo island in January 2017. The Moro National Liberation Front assisted in freeing them. A security official said Abu Sayyaf commander Marjan Sahid-juan, alias Apo Mike, led the abductors who freed the captives in exchange for a ransom.

May 23, 2017: Some 120 ISIS-linked gunmen kidnapped Filipino Roman Catholic priest Rev. Tere-sito Soganub, five church workers, and others from a church compound during the battle for Marawi. On March 23, 2018, *AP* reported that the freed Soganub, 57, told a Manila news conference that the hostage-takers forced him and 120 other hostages to gather explosive powder from firecrackers and unexploded military ordnance, which the terrorists turned into improvised bombs during his 116-day captivity. Soldiers rescued him in September 2017. He said that two of the kidnapped church staffers were killed in airstrikes and artillery bombardments. He said that Malaysian and Indonesian gunmen were involved in the fighting that was led by Philippine terrorists, including Isnilon Hapilon.

Thailand

2016: On May 2, 2018, the Pattani Provincial Court sentenced six men to death for several bombings in 2016 that killed two people and wounded more than 20. Colonel Pramote Prom-in of the Internal Security Operations Command said ten defendants had originally received death sentences on April 30, but due to their cooperation, three had their sentences commuted to life imprisonment and another to 40 years in prison. Prosecutors had charged the defendants for five bombings between June and December 2016 in Pattani and possession of pistols and bomb-making materials.

May 2017: On September 20, 2018, a Thai court convicted two men of involvement in the May 2017 car bombing of a busy shopping center in Pattani Province in which 61 people were injured. The duo were charged with attempted premeditated murder and use of bombs. They were sentenced to death, but the penalty was commuted to life in prison because they confessed.

Australia/New Zealand

Australia

October 2, 2015: ISIS-inspired Farhad Jabar, 15, killed Curtis Cheng with a 0.38 Smith & Wesson as the accountant walked from the New South Wales state police headquarters in central Sydney after work. Police shot Jabar to death moments later. A note found on Jabar's body said he had "come to put terror in your hearts.... You all are being watched 24/7, while you are asleep, awake, planning.... Your nights will be turned into nightmares, your days into hell ... by the will of Allah," it added.

AP reported on January 29, 2018, that the sentencing hearing began of Raban Alou, 20, a confessed militant accused of providing a revolver to Jabar. At the start of the hearing in New South Wales State Supreme Court, Alou refused to stand as a sign of respect for Justice Peter Johnson. In 2017, Alou pleaded guilty to aiding, abetting, counseling or procuring a terrorist act. The offense carried a maximum life sentence. Alou was represented by attorney Matthew Johnson, who said that Alou did not stand for religious reasons. Johnson replied that the Australian National Imams Council had said that there is "no religious basis to prohibit either standing up for courts or bowing to judicial officers." Prosecutor Paul McGuire noted that Alou lacked remorse, had extremist views and poor prospects of rehabilitation.

On May 18, 2018, Justice Peter Johnson of the New South Wales Supreme Court sentenced Talal Alameddine, 25, to 17 years in prison for providing the revolver. He must serve a minimum of 13½ years behind bars. He refused to stand before the judge. New South Wales earlier criminalized refusing to stand for a judge after several Muslim defendants remained seated in court on religious grounds. Alameddine had pleaded guilty to recklessly possessing an object connected with a terrorist act and supplying a pistol. The maximum penalty for each offense is 30 years in prison. Alameddine provided the gun to Raban Alou, 20, who gave it to Jabar. The court could not determine whether Alameddine had sold the gun or gave it away. Alou was sentenced in March 2018 to 44 years in prison.

On November 23, 2018, *AP* reported that ISIS supporter Milad Atai, 22, who had pleaded guilty to assisting and encouraging Iranian-born Farhad Jabar to shoot police accountant Curtis Cheng, was sentenced to 38 years in prison. Atai also pleaded guilty to helping Jabar's older sister, Shadi Jabar Khalil Mohammed, fly to Syria a day earlier. In 2016, the sister died with her Sudanese husband in an airstrike in Syria. Justice Peter Johnson ordered Atai to serve a minimum of 28½ years in prison before becoming eligible for parole. Johnson said Atai had supported extreme jihad for several months before the shooting and appeared to still hold radical views.

Atai raised an index finger in the direction of the judge in an ISIS salute to there being one religion. A fellow member of his ISIS cell, Raban Alou, 20, gave the same judge the same salute when he was sentenced in March 2018 to 44 years in prison for giving Jabar the revolver. Alou must serve at least 33 years in prison.

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison argued for greater government power to strip extremists of citizenship.

October 2016: On December 11, 2018, *AP* reported that Judge Geoffrey Bellew of the Parramatta Supreme Court in western Sydney sentenced a Sydney teen, 18, to 16 years, calling on him to serve at least 12 years, in prison for planning an attack inspired by ISIS for which he bought knives and bayonets from a gun shop two years earlier. He was arrested outside a Muslim prayer hall in the western Sydney suburb of Bankstown in October 2016, and found guilty of plotting an attack by a jury in September 2018. Judge Bellew observed that “At the time of his arrest, the offender was ready, willing and able to carry out a terrorist attack It reflects a deep and unstinting motivation to act upon and put into specific effect the irrational, immoral and heinous advice propounded in extremist propaganda issued by Islamic State.” The defendant told the court that he sympathized with ISIS when he bought the weapons, but denied any plan to use them in a terror attack, saying he wanted them for camping and hunting. Judge Bellew noted that the arrest came little more than a month after the teen had downloaded an ISIS magazine which mentioned Bankstown in an article urging readers to “alleviate the pain afflicting the hearts of the Muslims by striking the kuffar {nonbeliever} in their homelands.... Kill them on the streets of Brunswick, Broadmeadows, Bankstown, and Bondi.” The article mentioned the Melbourne Cricket Ground and Sydney Opera House.

January 2017: On June 22, 2018, *AP* reported that a Victoria State Supreme Court jury in Melbourne could not decide whether James “Dimitrious” Gargasoulas, 28, was mentally fit to stand trial on six counts of murder and 28 counts of attempted murder by driving a car through a lunch-time crowd in pedestrian-only Bourke Street in January 2017. Justice Lex Lasry discharged them, saying a new jury would have to be selected. Two psychiatrists told the court Gargasoulas was unfit to stand trial, but a psychologist disagreed. Defense lawyers claimed Gargasoulas was “profoundly psychotic,” believed he was a “messiah” sent to save the world from a comet and should not stand trial.

May 2017: On June 7, 2018, an Australian judge sentenced Manodh Marks, 26, a Sri Lankan studying hospitality in Australia, to twelve years in prison for threatening to detonate a fake bomb on a Malaysia Airlines flight carrying more than 200 passengers and crew to Kuala Lumpur in May 2017. He forced the plane to turn back soon after takeoff when he yelled that he had a bomb and ran down the aisle carrying a portable speaker and a power bank with flashing blue lights. Marks pleaded guilty in a Melbourne court to attempting to take control of an aircraft, a federal offense that carries a potential maximum penalty of 20 years in prison. Defense attorneys

said their client had become a regular methamphetamine user and on the night of the flight was suffering a drug-induced psychosis with delusions. The judge ordered Marks to be deported to Sri Lanka after serving at least nine years of his sentence.

New Zealand

October 14, 1981: On March 4, 2018, the *New York Times* reported that Christopher John Lewis, 17, self-described terrorist, fired his .22 rifle from the fifth floor of a building in Dunedin during a visit by Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip as they stepped out of their Rolls Royce. He missed. He had fired from a toilet cubicle. He claimed membership in the National Imperial Guerrilla Army, and had a history of armed robbery, arson and animal torture, and was a fan of Charles Manson. He was charged with possessing and firing a weapon in public and sentenced to three years in jail. He electrocuted himself in 1997 at age 33 while in prison awaiting trial on murder charges in another case.

Europe

Belgium

May 24, 2014: French national Mehdi Nemmouche, 33, who was accused of “terrorist murder” for shooting dead four people at the Brussels Jewish museum on May 24, 2014, after fighting alongside extremists in Syria, appeared in court on December 20, 2018. His alleged accomplice, Nacer Bendrri, 30, also appeared in court. Nemmouche claimed he was involved but did not carry out the killings. Nemmouche was represented by attorney Sebastien Courtoy. The trial was expected to start on January 10, 2019; defense lawyers requested a two-week delay to examine extra evidence submitted by prosecutors. The trial was expected to last six to seven weeks.

March 18, 2016: On April 23, 2018, *AP* reported a Belgian court convicted Salah Abdeslam, 28, sole survivor of the group accused of the November 13, 2015, Paris and March 22, 2016, Brussels terrorist attacks, on charges related to a March 18, 2016, shootout with police as he was captured in Belgium. He was convicted of wounding four police officers in a terrorist context. Judge Marie-France Keutgen said in her 80-page ruling that the “terror character” of the actions of Abdeslam and his accomplices was clearly established. Keutgen sentenced Abdeslam co-defendant Sofien Ayari, 24, to 20-year prison sentences and fined each of them about \$14,600. Abdeslam was represented by attorneys Sven Mary and Romain Delcoigne.

March 22, 2016: On June 1, 2018, *UPI* reported that prosecutors charged Sofien Ayari, 24, with “par-

ticipation in the activities of a terrorist organization” for allegedly helping plan the March 22, 2016, bombings of Brussels Airport in Zaventem and the Maalbeek metro station in Brussels. Police arrested Ayari on March 18, 2016, while he was in hiding with Salah Abdeslam. Each of the men were sentenced to 20 years in prison in April 2018 for engaging in a gun battle with Belgian police during an earlier attempt to arrest them in Molenbeek.

Bulgaria

July 18, 2012: *AP* reported on January 17, 2018, that a Bulgarian specialized criminal court opened the trial in absentia of Meliad Farah, a dual Lebanese-Australian national, and Hassan el-Hajj Hassan, a dual Lebanese-Canadian national, on charges of terrorism for their alleged involvement in the July 18, 2012, suicide bombing by French-Lebanese national Mohamad Hassan el-Husseini of a tourist bus at the airport in the Black Sea resort of Burgas that killed five Israeli tourists and their bus driver and injured 35. The duo allegedly provided the explosive device and logistical support to the Hizballah bomber. The trial was to resume on February 6, 2018.

Finland

August 18, 2017: *AP* reported on February 7, 2018, that Olli Toyra of the National Bureau of Investigation said that Moroccan asylum-seeker Abderrahman Bouanane, who killed two women and injured eight people in an August 18, 2017, stabbing attack in southwestern Finland, identified strongly with ISIS and was motivated largely by hatred after heavy bombardments by the Western alliance in Raqqa. He became radicalized three months before the attack and thought of himself as an ISIS fighter. On February 28, 2018, Finnish prosecutors charged Bouanane with two terror-related murders and an attempt to murder eight others, “aiming to cause serious fear among the population.” Bouanane was born in 1994. He had pleaded guilty, but did not say whether he had terrorist intent.

AP reported on April 9, 2018, that the trial in Turku began of Bouanane on charges of fatally stabbing two people and wounding eight others. He faced two counts of terror-related murder and eight counts of attempted murder with a terror-related motive, the first terror-related charges issued in Finland. Prosecutors sought a life sentence.

On May 15, 2018, *AP* reported that Finnish prosecutor Hannu Koistinen demanded a life term for Abderrahman Bouanane. Bouanane pleaded guilty in Finland’s first terror trial, but denied he intended to commit a terrorist act. Koistinen said that the victims “were tools so the defendant could meet IS’s target of spreading fear in Europe.”

On June 15, 2018, *AP* reported that the southern Finland district court found Bouanane guilty of the August 18, 2017, stabbing rampage in Turku. He was convicted for two terror-related murders and eight attempted murders and sentenced to life in prison. A life sentence in Finland averages between twelve and 20 years with most serving 14–16 years. Prosecutor Hannu Koistinen said Bouanane told investigators he first planned to decapitate his victims. Bouanane was represented by defense attorney Kaarle Gummerus.

France

1974: On March 5, 2018, *AP* reported that Venezuelan terrorist Ilich Ramirez Sanchez, alias Carlos the Jackal, 68, went on trial on appeal regarding a 1974 grenade attack on the Paris shopping arcade Drugstore Publicis that killed two people and injured 34. He was convicted in Paris in 2017 and sentenced to life. He was also serving two life sentences for murders and attacks he conducted or organized in the 1970s and 1980s on behalf of the Palestinian cause or of communism. His attorneys included Isabelle Coutant-Peyre and Francis Vuillemin. The court upheld his life sentence on March 15, 2018. Coutant-Peyre said Carlos was likely to appeal the “political decision” to France’s highest court.

January 7, 2015: On June 14, 2018, *AP* and *BFM* television reported that a French judicial official said a 37-year-old man was being questioned by investigators in the probe into the January 2015 attacks on *Charlie Hebdo* and a kosher supermarket in Paris. He was arrested on June 12, 2018, on suspicion of involvement in helping providing weapons to Amedy Coulibaly, who took over a kosher supermarket in January 2015 and demanded that police back off their pursuit of two brothers who had attacked *Charlie Hebdo* days earlier.

CNN and the French news website *Marianne* reported on December 20, 2018, that Djibouti authorities had arrested Peter Cherif, alias Abu Hamza, believed to be an associate of brothers Cherif and Said Kouachi, who killed 12 people at the *Charlie Hebdo* office in Paris on January 7, 2015. On December 23, he was extradited to France. He was taken into custody upon arrival at Charles de Gaulle Airport and handed preliminary terrorism charges of criminal association with a terrorist enterprise. He had traveled to Iraq and Syria in the early 2000s, and had been sought by French authorities since 2011.

November 13, 2015: On January 24, 2018, *AP* reported that the trial began of three individuals accused of helping the attackers following the ISIS killing spree in Paris on November 13, 2015:

- Jawad Bendaoud, 31, believed to have helped two of the attackers, including the ringleader, hide

from the police by providing lodging. Prison guards remained on strike, but he was nonetheless transferred from prison to the court. Bendaoud, who had a previous criminal record, faced a six-year sentence.

- Mohamed Soumah, accused of acting as an intermediary with Bendaoud to find lodging for the two fugitives. He faced six years.
- Youssef Ait-Boulahcen, accused of being aware of their whereabouts and not informing authorities. He faced five years.

Among the 500 civil plaintiffs were Bilal Mokono, who was seriously injured by a suicide bomber outside the Stade de France; and Aurelie Bonnet, whose husband was killed in the attacks.

Seven of the nine terrorists died at the scene. The two surviving killers hid in the apartment Bendaoud rented to them in Saint-Denis north of Paris, and then died during a police raid on November 18, 2015.

AFP reported on February 1, 2018, that the trial of Salah Abdeslam, 28, was scheduled to begin on February 5, 2018. His previous attorney said he possessed “the intelligence of an empty ashtray.” He was charged with renting cars and hideouts used by the ISIS attackers who killed 130 people. On the night of the Paris massacre, he did not activate his suicide belt, which was found in a trash can outside the Stade de France several days later. He was caught in Brussels’s Molenbeek neighborhood after a four-month manhunt. He was also linked to the terrorists behind the Brussels airport and metro bombings in March 2016, which took place four days after his arrest. Abdeslam and suspected accomplice Sofian Ayari were charged with attempted murder over a March 15, 2016, shootout in the Forest neighborhood of Brussels during which three police officers were injured. He was held in solitary confinement in Europe’s biggest prison at Fleury-Merogis, south of Paris.

On February 14, 2018, a French court acquitted street criminal Jawad Bendaoud, 31, of charges of harboring two 2015 Paris attackers. He had faced six years in prison. The court convicted and sentenced his two co-defendants. Mohamed Soumah, accused of acting as an intermediary, received a five-year prison sentence. Youssef Ait-Boulahcen, accused of being aware of the extremist’s whereabouts and not informing authorities, was sentenced to three years.

On March 9, 2018, Salah Abdeslam agreed to answer a judge’s questions regarding Ali Oulkadi, who allegedly drove him in Brussels the day after the Paris attacks and dropped Abdeslam off at a safe house that also was used as a workshop for manufacturing explosive belts. Prosecutors asked for a maximum 20-year prison sentence. AP reported on

March 29 that the sentencing was scheduled for April 23.

On June 8, 2018, AP reported that survivors and families of victims of the 2015 attack on Paris’ Bataclan concert hall had filed a legal complaint to find out why eight soldiers stationed nearby were ordered not to use their weapons or even help administer first aid to victims when ISIS gunmen stormed the venue. Victim lawyer Sonia Maktouf said that the complaint aimed to expose who was responsible in the French government.

On June 11, 2018, French authorities charged Osama Krayem with a series of terrorism offenses in the November 2015 Paris attacks, including participating in a terrorist organization, explosives manufacturing, terrorist murders and false imprisonment. Belgian prosecutors said Krayem was directly involved in the suicide attack on the Maelbeek subway station in Brussels. He grew up in Sweden before he started posting photos on social media from Syria. He was returned to custody in Belgium, where he also faced charges.

Germany

July 2000: AP reported on January 25, 2018, that the trial in Duesseldorf’s state court began of a 51-year-old right-wing extremist who was charged for a July 2000 remote-detonation bombing in a Duesseldorf subway station that injured ten recent eastern European immigrants, including six Jews, coming home from German language lessons. Prosecutors did not initially have enough evidence to try him until he allegedly confessed to a fellow prisoner four years ago when he was incarcerated for another crime. He testified that he was home at the time of the attack.

July 22, 2016: On January 19, 2018, AP and DPA reported that German citizen Philipp K., 33, who sold the Glock 17 pistol and ammunition used by David S., 18, in the July 22, 2016, shooting in a Munich mall, was convicted of nine counts of involuntary manslaughter and five of involuntary bodily harm, as well as violating weapons laws and sentenced to seven years in prison. David S. killed nine and wounded others before killing himself. Philipp K. admitted to selling the materiel on the Darknet when his trial opened in the summer of 2017. In August, he apologized to the victims of the attack.

April 11, 2017: On January 8, 2018, AP reported that defendant Sergej W., 28, who was charged with 28 counts of attempted murder, two counts of bodily harm, and setting off an explosion by detonating three bombs targeting the Borussia Dortmund soccer team bus on April 11, 2017, testified that he conducted the attack, but did not intend to cause harm.

DPA and AP reported on November 27, 2018, that the Dortmund State Court found Sergej W., 29, guilty of 28 counts of attempted murder and setting off an explosion and sentenced him to 14 years in prison. Dortmund defender Marc Bartra and a police officer were injured when three explosions went off. The trial lasted eleven months. W., a German citizen who came to the country from Russia at 13, was arrested ten days after the attack.

July 28, 2017: On March 1, 2018, DPA reported that a Hamburg court sentenced rejected Palestinian asylum-seeker Ahmad Alhaw, 27, to life in prison for murder and attempted murder in a knife attack in a Hamburg supermarket on July 28, 2017, in which he killed one person and injured six others. He said he was contributing to worldwide jihad. He was born in the UAE and came to Germany in 2015. He confessed during his trial that on the day of the attack he decided to kill Christian Germans indiscriminately regarding a contested Jerusalem holy site.

November 2017: On March 21, 2018, AP reported that German prosecutors filed in the state court of Hagen charges of attempted murder, bodily harm and intimidation against Werner S., 56, accused of attacking with a kitchen knife Altena mayor Andreas Hollstein at a local kebab restaurant because of his welcoming stance toward refugees. Hollstein was cut in his neck. On June 11, 2018, Werner S. was convicted of bodily harm and intimidation. DPA reported that the state court in Hagen could not establish that he intended to kill. The court gave Werner S. a two-year suspended jail sentence.

Greece

May 25, 2017: On March 2, 2018, AP reported that the Public Order Ministry added 200 police officers to patrol Athens as anarchist groups continued a campaign of attacks in support of a jailed suspect, 29, accused of seriously wounding former Prime Minister Lucas Papademos, 70, when he opened a parcel bomb in his car on May 25, 2017. More than a dozen youths carrying hammers and iron bars attacked shops in central Athens, damaging several storefronts but causing no injuries. Similar incidents included a grenade attack on an Athens police station that injured a taxi driver, and fire bombings against riot police. The defendant was hospitalized after going on a hunger and thirst strike to protest his transfer from an Athens prison to a prison in central Greece. Later on March 2, the Greek government returned him to an Athens prison, saying the decision was part of a plan to turn the Athens maximum security prison—where several dozen convicted anarchist terrorists were held—into a pre-trial holding area.

Italy

December 19, 2016: On March 29, 2018, AP reported that Italian police arrested a Palestinian and four Tunisians connected to Anis Amri, the Tunisian who killed 12 people in the December 19, 2016, Berlin Christmas market truck attack and was later killed in a shootout with police in Italy. Police said Tunisian Akram Baazaoui was believed to have procured the fake Italian identity papers that allowed Amri to move around Europe. ISIS claimed credit.

Macedonia

2003: On March 19, 2018, AP reported that a Skopje criminal court had overturned the more than decade-old terrorism convictions of ten ethnic Albanian men, many of whom served long prison terms, over a mine attack on a NATO vehicle. The court ruled that there was no evidence linking the men to the 2003 explosion in northern Macedonia that killed two Polish soldiers and their Macedonian translator. Four had been convicted in absentia. The others served between three and one half and seven years in prison. Their lawyers said the men would seek compensation.

Malta

October 16, 2017: AP reported on March 20, 2018, that Greek police announced that Russian woman Maria Efimova, 35, wanted by Malta in connection with the car bomb killing on October 16, 2017, of Maltese investigative journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia, had surrendered voluntarily in Athens. Efimova told officers she feared for her life. She was ordered detained in an Athens prison. An open warrant alleged that former bank employee Efimova provided false evidence that could lead to another's conviction and made false accusations to authorities. Three Maltese men believed to have set off the bomb were ordered in December 2017 to stand trial for murder.

On June 14, 2018, AP reported that Greece's Supreme Court rejected a second request by Malta for the extradition of Maria Efimova, a Russian whistleblower who helped murdered Maltese journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia investigate money-laundering in high places. The ruling upheld an April decision by a lower court, which deemed the Maltese request vague and irregular. Malta wanted to arrest her for allegedly providing false evidence that could lead to another's conviction, making false accusations to authorities and theft.

Reuters and the *Sunday Times of Malta* reported on November 18, 2018, that investigators had identified three Maltese nationals who they believe masterminded the car bomb killing of Galizia near Val-

letta. Three men suspected of having been commissioned to carry out the killing had been under arrest for almost a year. They had pleaded not guilty. A court heard evidence that they allegedly planted a bomb in her car and set it off via an SMS message.

Netherlands

May 6, 2002: On May 29, 2018, a judge ruled that Volkert van der Graaf, who was convicted of murder and sentenced to 18 years in prison for gunning down populist Dutch politician Pim Fortuyn on May 6, 2002, no longer had to report to parole authorities, freeing him to emigrate. Van der Graaf, an animal rights activist, was released in 2014 after serving two-thirds of his sentence but ordered to report every six weeks to a parole officer.

Norway

July 2011: *AP* reported on June 22, 2018, that the Strasbourg-based European Court of Human Rights rejected the appeal by Fjotolf Hansen, nee Anders Behring Breivik, that his prison conditions in Skien were a violation of his human rights. His prison cell is a three-room suite with video games, a DVD player, a typewriter, books, newspapers and exercise equipment.

Slovakia

2016: *AP* reported on July 9, 2018, that a court in Pezinok sentenced Stefan K., a Slovak man, to life imprisonment on terrorism charges for sending envelopes containing radioactive americium to several county courts, the Justice Ministry and a regional police headquarters in 2016 with a letter containing threats to judges, prosecutors and police officers. No one was harmed. K., who pleaded not guilty, immediately appealed. The case will be decided by the Supreme Court. The man obtained the substance at his workplace.

Spain

October 2016: *AP* reported on April 16, 2018, that a trial began regarding the beating of two police officers and their girlfriends by eight defendants at a bar in Alsasua in October 2016. Prosecutors said the fight should be treated as terror injuries and threats and judged as part of the long-standing Basque separatist campaign to oust Spanish security forces. Three defendants were kept in pretrial custody for nearly 18 months. Prosecutors requested prison sentences ranging between 12 and 62 years.

August 17, 2017: On February 20, 2018, the French prosecutor's office announced that three people were detained in Tarn and Gard, France as part of

an inquiry into "attempted murder as part of a terrorist enterprise" and "criminal terrorist association" in connection with the August 2017 attacks in Barcelona and Cambrils, which left 16 dead. On February 23, 2018, the French prosecutor's office said one faced charges as part of an inquiry into "attempted murder as part of a terrorist enterprise" and "criminal terrorist association" and that the person arrested in the Tarn region was in the network of one of the Spanish suspects. The other two suspects were released.

Sweden

April 7, 2017: On January 30, 2018, *AP* reported that Uzbek man Rakhmat Akilov, who had confessed to ramming a stolen beer truck into a crowd on a busy pedestrian shopping street in downtown Stockholm on April 7, 2017, killing five, including a British man, a Belgian woman, and three Swedes, including an 11-year-old girl, and injuring 14, was charged with terrorism, attempts to carry out a terror act and causing others to be endangered. Prosecutor Hans Ihrman said, "Akilov wanted to punish Sweden for taking part in the international coalition against (the Islamic State group)." Akilov was represented by attorney Johan Eriksson, who said Akilov admitted committing terror and exposing people to attempted murder, and had been cooperative during the investigation. Ihrman said he would request a life sentence and extradition from Sweden. The trial was scheduled to run from February 13 to May 9. Akilov had offered to ISIS to conduct an attack in Stockholm on behalf of the group, and had gathered information about possible targets. The 35-page charge sheet said that Akilov's cell phone contained pictures he had taken of streets in downtown Stockholm "which strengthens (the theory) he was on reconnaissance of the crime scene." Internet chat logs showed Akilov discussing becoming a martyr and swearing allegiance to ISIS between January 12, 2017, and the attack on April 7, as well as a memory card with "material that can be connected to IS," including execution videos.

On February 13, 2018, the Stockholm District Court began the trial of Rakhmat Akilov, 39. He said he wanted "to scare the infidels and leave my life." Prosecutors requested a life sentence and extradition from Sweden. Akilov had confessed to the attack.

On April 26, 2018, Prosecutor Hans Ihrman told the Stockholm District Court that a life sentence was warranted for Akilov, 40, deeming him "a security risk to society and will continue to be one as long as he has the attitude he has today." On May 2, 2018, defense lawyer Johan Eriksson agreed that his client should get a life sentence, deeming him a "security risk to society." A verdict was expected on June 7.

AP reported on June 7, 2018, that Akilov was convicted of five counts of terror-related murder, 119 counts of attempted murder and 24 of endangering the life of others. Judge Ragnar Palmkvist sentenced him to life in prison. Prosecutor Hans Ihrman dubbed Akilov a “security risk to society” during his trial at the Stockholm District Court. Akilov’s defense lawyer, Johan Eriksson, said his client did not immediately decide whether to appeal and needed to read the 145-page verdict. The court sentenced Akilov to be expelled from Sweden after he serves his sentence (life usually means 18 years in Sweden) and banned him from returning. Judge Carl Rosenmuller explained to Sweden’s *TT* news agency that it was considered attempted murder against anyone who had been within two meters from the truck racing down Drottninggatan, while people further away were considered having been endangered.

August 30, 2017: On November 9, 2018, *AP* reported that the Stockholm District Court sentenced Swedish man Michael Salonen, 43, to seven years in prison for attempted murder by sending a letter bomb to a Bitcoin company in London and convicted of sending threatening letters to lawmakers in Sweden, including government members. Salonen mailed a package containing two pipe bomb-like devices in August 2017 to London-based Bitcoin company Cryptopay, addressed to two employees. It was sent care of an accounting firm, where it was opened but did not explode. British police found Salonen’s DNA on the bomb. The court found him guilty of 20 counts of threats for including a white powder in letters to lawmakers sent in 2017. On August 30, 2017, authorities intercepted a handwritten letter to Prime Minister Stefan Lofven with the text “you will soon be dead” and some powder. Salonen was arrested in May 2018 at Stockholm’s international airport upon arrival from Thailand, where he had been detained pending extradition.

December 9, 2017: On June 25, 2018, *AP* reported that the Goteborg District Court found three men—two Palestinians and a Syrian—guilty of attempted arson on December 9, 2017, against the Jewish synagogue in Goteborg, causing minor damage. Two men were sentenced to two years in jail; the third to 15 months. The Palestinian, 22, had his asylum application turned down after the attack and will be deported after serving his sentence. The others, aged 19 and 24, have Swedish residency permits. The court said they were part of a masked group who threw burning objects at the synagogue in reaction to U.S. recognition of Jerusalem as Israel’s capital.

Turkey

2013: *AP* and *Anadolu* reported on September 12, 2018, that Turkish intelligence agents in Latikia

Province in Syria captured Yusuf Nazik, a main suspect in planning and organizing two 2013 car bombings that killed 53 people in Reyhanli near the border with Syria, and brought him back to Turkey for questioning. Turkey had accused Damascus of being behind the explosions and blamed them on a Turkish Marxist group with alleged links to Syria’s intelligence agency. *Anadolu* reported that Nazik confessed that he had received instructions from Syrian intelligence units to carry out an attack on Turkish soil, that he had staked out possible targets, had smuggled explosives from Syria into Turkey and organized the car bombings. Turkish television channels ran a video of Nazik confessing. In February 2018, a court sentenced nine people to life in prison for the attack. Another 13 suspects were sentenced to between 10 and 15 years. Nazik and seven other suspects had been at large and were wanted on international arrest warrants.

October 10, 2015: Two suspected ISIS terrorists bombed a peace rally outside Ankara’s main train station, killing 201 people. *AP* reported on August 3, 2018, that a Turkish court sentenced nine ISIS suspects to life in prison. *Anadolu* reported that the court convicted nine people on charges of violating the constitutional order, murder and attempted murder. *Hurriyet* reported that nine other defendants were convicted of membership in a terror group and sentenced to differing prison terms.

January 2016: *Dogan* and *AP* reported on January 8, 2018, that Atala al-Hassan al-Mayyuf, variant Mayyuf, who was accused of organizing a 2016 suicide bomb attack at Istanbul’s Sultanahmet district that killed 12 Germans and wounded 16 people (including nine Germans and citizens of Norway, Peru and South Korea), requested his release from jail so he could take care of his children who he said were at risk of joining ISIS. The court adjourned until January 24 the trial against 26 people accused of involvement in the attack. He faced life in prison. The suicide bomber, Syrian Nabil Fadli, was believed to be affiliated with ISIS. On January 31, 2018, *Anadolu* reported the court gave life sentences to Hasan al-Mayyuf, Fevzi Muhammed Ali and Halil Dervis for breaching Turkey’s constitution and to additional 329 years each for killing 12 people and the attempted murder of 16 people injured in the blast. The court sentenced another defendant to six years and three months in prison for membership in an armed group; 18 others were acquitted; and no ruling was issued for four at-large defendants.

June 28, 2016: On November 16, 2018, *AP* and *Anadolu* reported that a court in Istanbul convicted six people of premeditated homicide and contravening the Turkish Constitution and sentenced them to life in prison for involvement in the attack at Istanbul’s main airport that killed 45 people and

injured 163 on June 28, 2016. Twenty-six other defendants were acquitted of all charges. Turkey blamed ISIS for the attack in which three terrorists armed with automatic weapons stormed Ataturk International Airport and opened fire. They detonated suicide vests that killed them and more airport visitors. The attackers were identified as Vadim Osmanav and Rakhim Bulgarov, while the third man's name remains unknown. Some 46 defendants were on trial for the attack, including Russian, Algerian, Tunisian, Egyptian, Syrian and Turkish citizens. Six were sentenced to prison terms ranging from six to 12 years for membership in a terror group. Others were convicted of aiding a terror group or fraud. Four defendants remained at large.

Ukraine

May 2016: *AP* reported on May 21, 2018, that the Liuboml District Court convicted Frenchman Gregoire Moutaux of preparing a terror attack during the 2016 European Championship and buying illegal weapons. He was sentenced to six years in prison in the northwestern Volyn region. He was arrested in May 2016 as he tried to leave Ukraine with an arsenal of weapons weeks before the start of the tournament hosted by France. Authorities said he wanted to protest his government's immigration policies and the spread of Islam by launching attacks on bridges, railways, a mosque and a synagogue.

United Kingdom

December 21, 1988: On May 3, 2018, *AP* reported that the Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission announced "that it is in the interests of justice" to review the conviction of the late Abdelbaset al-Megrahi over the December 21, 1988, Lockerbie bombing, which killed 270 people. He was convicted in 2001 of blowing up Pan Am Flight 103. He lost one appeal and abandoned another before being freed on August 20, 2009, on compassionate grounds. He died of cancer in 2012 in Tripoli, Libya. His family was represented by Aamer Anwar.

June 16, 2016: On September 27, 2018, Brussels, Belgium, named a square in the memory of Jo Cox, 41, the British Labour Party lawmaker who was stabbed to death by a far-right extremist in the run-up to the 2016 Brexit referendum. Cox had spent several years in Brussels before working at the British parliament. She was opposed to Brexit. The square in the center of Brussels was near her favorite concert hall.

May 22, 2017: *NPR* and the *Washington Post* 202 reported that a suicide bomber killed 22 and injured 59 leaving the foyer of the 21,000-seat Manchester Arena at the end of American pop singer Ariana Grande's concert, part of her Dangerous Woman tour. The next day, police arrested his brother, 23,

and another man. British officials said the bomber was Manchester-born Salman Abedi, 22, of Libyan descent. ISIS said on *Telegram* that one of its soldiers was responsible. Among the dead were John Atkinson, 26; Georgina Callander, 18; and Saffie Rose Roussos, 8. The missing included Olivia Campbell, 15, who went to the concert with friend Adam on his birthday. A dozen children under the age of 16 were injured by the 10:35 p.m. explosion. Grande, 23, was unharmed. Concertgoers, many wearing bunny ears like Grande, saw nuts and bolts on the ground, designed to cause massive casualties.

Abedi lived at a house in Fallowfield, southern Manchester. During a search, police conducted a controlled detonation. The British electoral roll listed Salman Abedi and Ismail Abedi as current residents of the house. In the south Manchester suburb of Chorlton, police arrested a 23-year-old man in a supermarket then searched an apartment in a nearby area.

The *New York Times* reported on November 23, 2018, that Abedi had visited a jailed extremist in prison and had gone to Libya from 2011 onward. In 2015, authorities deemed him a low risk. They had been scheduled to review his case on May 31, 2017—too late. He had not been placed on a watch list, according to the UK's Intelligence and Security Committee report *The 2017 Attacks: What Needs to Change?*

June 19, 2017: A white male driver yelling that he wanted to "kill more Muslims" crashed his van into a crowd of worshippers leaving midnight tawaween prayers during Ramadan at London's Finsbury Mosque and the Muslim Welfare House on Seven Sisters Road, injuring 15, nine of whom were hospitalized and one of whom (Makram Ali, 51) later died. On January 22, 2018, the trial began of Darren Osborne, 48, of Cardiff, Wales, on charges of murder and attempted murder. Prosecutors called him a "ticking time bomb" who believed that all Muslims were extremists or rapists in pedophile gangs after watching a television show on child exploitation in north-central England. Osborne's partner, Sarah Andrews, said, "I should have realized what was going on and I feel so bad that I did not see it, so that I could have done something to stop it." Prosecutors said he had read e-mails and social media postings from far-right activists such as English Defense League founder Tommy Robinson and Britain First leader Paul Golding.

The *Washington Post* reported on February 1, 2018, that London's Woolwich Crown Court found Darren Osborne guilty of murder and attempted murder. He had pleaded not guilty, claiming a man named Dave drove the van. Prosecutors deemed the crime as terrorism because Osborne acted to advance a political purpose. Judge Bobbie Cheema-

Grubb on February 2 sentenced Osborne to life with no chance of parole for 43 years.

September 15, 2017: On January 19, 2018, *AP* reported that Ahmed Hassan, 18, pleaded not guilty to charges arising from an explosion on London's Parson Green tube station that injured 30 people on September 15, 2017. Prosecutors claimed that he made a bomb from materials he ordered online. Hassan, originally from Iraq, was charged with attempted murder and using TATP to cause an explosion likely to endanger life. The trial was set to begin on March 5, 2018. He was held in Belmarsh Prison.

On March 8, 2018, *AP* reported that commuters testified at London's Central Criminal Court that they were left with singed hair and burns after a fireball tore through a subway carriage on September 15, 2017, at Parsons Green station. Iraqi asylum-seeker Ahmed Hassan was accused of planting a bomb on the London Underground train which partially detonated. Prosecutors said the bomb contained shrapnel and 400 grams of TATP explosives inside a plastic bucket wrapped in a shopping bag and placed in a train carrying 93 passengers. On March 16, 2018, the London jury at the Old Bailey court convicted him of attempted murder. He had arrived in the UK in 2015 by traveling through the Channel Tunnel on a truck. He had claimed asylum and was living with a foster family near London. On March 23, 2018, Judge Charles Haddon-Cave sentenced Hassan to a life term, requiring him to serve at least 34 years in prison.

September 20, 2017: On March 2, 2018, a jury found British citizen Paul Moore, 21, guilty of attempted murder for running over a Muslim woman, Zaynab Hussein, 47, with his Volkswagen in Leicester in a hate crime he saw as revenge for Islamic extremist attacks. She sustained life-changing injuries, including fractures to her pelvis, spine and leg. He initially hit her with the vehicle, then ran over her while she was on the ground. Minutes later, Moore tried to drive into a schoolgirl, 12, who was not injured.

Latin America

Argentina

1994: On March 5, 2018, *AP* reported that Argentina's CIJ Judicial Information Center announced that former President Cristina Fernandez would be tried for allegedly covering up the role of Iranians in the 1994 bomb attack on a Jewish center in Buenos Aires that killed 85 people and wounded hundreds. Eleven other former officials and people close to her government would also stand trial on charges of cover-up and abuse of power.

El Salvador

March 24, 1980: On March 7, 2018, *AP* reported that Pope Francis had approved making Roman Catholic Archbishop Oscar Romero a saint. Romero was killed by right-wing death squad as he celebrated Mass in a hospital chapel in San Salvador. Pope Francis signed a decree confirming a miracle attributed to Romero's intercession. Vatican official Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia spearheaded Romero's sainthood cause for standing up for the poor and oppressed. Pope Francis canonized him as a saint on October 14, 2018.

Honduras

March 2, 2016: On November 29, 2018, a three-judge Honduran court found seven people guilty of participating in the 2016 murder of prize-winning indigenous and environmental rights activist Berta Caceres. The court held that Elvin Rapalo, Henry Hernandez, Edilson Duarte and Oscar Torres carried out the killing of Caceres, who was shot inside her home in La Esperanza in western Honduras. They faced 30 years in prison for the murder conviction. The judges issued guilty verdicts on murder charges for army officer Mariano Diaz, ex-soldier Douglas Bustillo and Sergio Rodriguez, a manager of the Agua Zarca hydroelectric project, which Caceres had opposed. Emerson Duarte, Edilson's brother, was acquitted of covering up the crime. Sentencing was scheduled for January 10, 2019.

Roberto David Castillo Mejia, who was executive president of the company leading the construction work, DESA, when Caceres was killed, was accused by prosecutors of organizing the logistics of the killing. He remained in prison awaiting trial.

Paraguay

August 27, 2016: The Paraguayan People's Army (EPP) kidnapped Mennonite farmer Franz Wiebe, 17. He was freed in February 2017 following payment of an undisclosed ransom.

September 1, 2017: *Mercopress* reported that Paraguayan People's Army (EPP) guerrillas kidnapped Bernard Blatz Friessen, 22, a Mennonite farmer who was driving a pickup while his father followed in a harvester. Several men with heavy guns shot at the tires of the two vehicles. They pulled the Paraguayan citizen out of the pickup. He tried to run over the kidnappers, but they fled into the woods. EPP is a Marxist group with Catholic roots. The kidnapping occurred in San Pedro Province.

Weeks earlier, EPP kidnapped Franz Hiebert Wieler, another Mennonite farmer, 31, a few miles away, torching his tractor. As of September 2017, the EPP also held a police officer, Edelio Moringio,

kidnapped in 2014; cattle rancher Felix Urbieto, kidnapped in 2016; and Mennonite Abraham Fehr, held since 2015. EPP called for prisoner release in exchange for Moringio, and ransoms and food distribution among indigenous people in northern Paraguay in exchange for the civilians.

On February 6, 2018, EPP released Mexican hostage Franz Hiebert, 32, and Paraguayan Bernhard Blatz, 22, in a forest in Concepcion State, about 250 miles north of Asuncion. EPP had demanded a joint \$1 million ransom for their release. Their families said they lacked the money. EPP then asked them instead to distribute food to poor rural communities, which the families did in December 2017. Hiebert was treated at an Asuncion hospital, suffering from infections and other injuries while he was tied to a tree trunk in the forest for months.

Middle East

Afghanistan

April 25, 2003: The *Washington Post* reported on February 15, 2018, that sentencing in a Brooklyn court was scheduled for the next day for senior al-Qaeda member Ibrahim Suleiman Adnan Adam Harun, alias Spin Ghul, for conspiring to kill two American service members in Afghanistan and later plotting to bomb the U.S. Embassy in Nigeria. He was convicted of terrorism charges in March 2017. Italy detained him in 2011 and allowed U.S. agents and prosecutors to interrogate him in September 2011, obtaining a confession. His attorneys claimed that he was tortured while detained in Libya for six years before his arrival in Italy and has mental health problems.

Spin Ghul was part of the 15–20 al-Qaeda attack squad that approached Firebase Shkin, which housed 100 U.S. troops in eastern Afghanistan, from across the Pakistani border, on April 25, 2003. He fired his Kalashnikov at U.S. troops up on a hill. Among those killed were Airman 1st Class Raymond Losano, 24, and Private Jerod Dennis, 19. Spin Ghul was seriously injured and left behind his leather-bound Koran. Returning to Pakistan, he asked senior al-Qaeda commander Abu Faraj al-Libi for permission to lead an attack on the U.S. Embassy in Nigeria. In August 2003, Spin Ghul traveled to Abuja, Nigeria, but failed to buy explosives. Fearing capture, he fled to Niger and then to Libya, where he was detained in 2005. After his 2011 release, he was put on a boat with 1,200 refugees bound for Italy. Italy extradited him in October 2012.

Reuters reported on February 16, 2018, that U.S. District Judge Brian Cogan in Brooklyn sentenced Spin Ghul to life in prison. Spin Ghul claimed to be from Niger, although the government said he was not a citizen.

June 30, 2009: On June 5, 2018, *AP* reported that Army General Robert Abrams, head of U.S. Army Forces Command, approved the sentence given Private Bowe Bergdahl in a November 2017 court martial. Bergdahl was demoted from sergeant to private and ordered to forfeit \$1,000 a month in pay for ten months. The judge ordered him dishonorably discharged. The case was referred to the Army Court of Criminal Appeals at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, which automatically reviews any punitive discharges.

AP reported on October 30, 2018, that Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said that the five Afghan Taliban members who were freed in 2014 from Guantanamo Bay in exchange for Bowe Bergdahl had joined the group's political office in Qatar. The five included Mohammed Fazl, the former Taliban army chief arrested in 2002; Khairullah Khairkhwa, a former governor of Herat Province, who was close to both Taliban founder Mullah Omar and al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden; Abdul Haq Wasiq, deputy intelligence minister; Mullah Norullah Nori, once described as the most significant Taliban leader held at Guantanamo Bay because of his particularly close relationship with Mullah Omar; and Mohammad Nabi, a Taliban communications officer.

2012: On June 1, 2018, Ontario Court Justice Robert Wadden granted bail to former Taliban hostage Joshua Boyle with strict bail conditions that included an electronic tracking bracelet. Under the release conditions, Boyle was to live with his parents, Patrick and Linda Boyle in Smiths Falls, Ontario. Boyle was charged with several offenses, including sexual assault, assault, unlawful confinement and causing someone to take a noxious substance between October 14 and December 30, 2017, after he and his American wife, Caitlan Coleman of Stewartstown, Pennsylvania, returned to Canada.

Algeria

1996: A radical group was believed to have kidnapped seven French monks from the monastery of Tibhirine and beheaded them. *AP* reported on December 8, 2018, that in Oran, a cardinal dispatched by the Vatican held a beatification ceremony for 19 monks, nuns and other Catholics who were killed during Algeria's civil war in the 1990s. Pope Francis recognized all 19 as martyrs in January 2018. Beatification is a step in the process of being declared a saint.

Bahrain

November 2017: On February 7, 2018, police arrested four men suspected of being behind an explosion at a state-run oil pipeline in November 2017 near the Shi'ite village of Buri. No group had claimed credit. The Interior Ministry reported that

two of those arrested received “intensive training” in Iranian Revolutionary Guard camps in Iran. The government named four suspects, men aged 23–27; and noted that one faced a 15-year-sentence in another case.

Egypt

2013: On September 13, 2018, *AP* reported that a court in Minya Province sentenced three men to death and another 41 to life imprisonment for a 2013 attack on a police station in Samalout south of Cairo. The previous week, a Cairo court sentenced to death 75 people, including senior members of the outlawed Muslim Brotherhood.

2015: *AP* reported on January 2, 2018, that Egypt executed four jihadis at an Alexandria prison following their conviction by a military tribunal of a 2015 bomb attack that killed three military academy students and wounded six others outside a stadium in the Nile Delta city of Kafr el-Sheikh as the military cadets were waiting for a bus to take them to the academy.

2015: On November 25, 2018, *AP* reported that the Court of Cassation, Egypt’s highest appeals court, upheld death sentences against nine defendants convicted for their involvement in the 2015 assassination of chief prosecutor Hisham Barakat. The court commuted to life imprisonment death sentences against six other defendants. Death sentences were also handed down in July 2017 to 13 defendants tried in absentia. In the case, the lower court sentenced 15 defendants to life, eight to 15 years in prison and 15 others to 10 years. Charges against one defendant who died in detention were dropped.

2016: *AP* reported on August 28, 2018, that the Cairo Criminal Court sentenced six people to death for their roles in a 2016 terrorist attack on a security checkpoint north of Cairo that killed a policeman, two defendants to life in prison and four others, including a 15-year-old, to between three and 15 years. All were charged with “establishing a terrorist group,” *inter alia*. The court received approval from the grand mufti, the country’s highest Islamic authority, for the death sentences.

March 29, 2016: On August 18, 2018, Cyprus extradited Egypt Air hijacker Seif Eddin Mustafa, 60, to his native Egypt.

September 2017: On November 17, 2018, *AP* reported that Egypt sentenced an alleged IS supporter, 40, to death for stabbing and killing a Christian doctor, 82, in Cairo in September 2017. The terrorist, pretending to be a patient, requested to see the doctor. He stabbed the doctor when he was shown into the clinic’s examination room, and stabbed the physician’s assistant when she tried to stop the attack.

October 2017: On February 12, 2018, the Cairo Criminal Court convicted and sentenced to death Ahmed Saeed of knifing to death Coptic priest Samaan Shehata, 40, in al-Salam northeast of Cairo in October 2017. Another priest was wounded. The verdict can be appealed.

Iran

June 2017: On April 28, 2018, *AP* and *Mizanonline.com* reported that the Revolutionary Court trial began for 26 alleged ISIS members who took part in an attack in Tehran in 2017 on charges of being members of a terrorist organization, weapons possession and unauthorized entry into the country. The indictment said that S.M. left the country in 2015 and joined ISIS. In 2016, he re-entered Iran wearing a suicide belt and carrying weapons. In June 2017, five ISIS terrorists attacked Iran’s parliament and a shrine to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, killing 18 people and wounding more than 50.

June 7, 2017: On May 13, 2018, Mousa Ghazanfarabadi, head of the Tehran Revolutionary Courts, told state TV that the judiciary had sentenced eight people to death over attacks claimed by ISIS in June 2017. They were found guilty of aiding the five terrorists who attacked parliament and a shrine to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini killing 18 and wounding more than 50. Security forces killed the attack squad. Ghazanfarabadi said 18 more people faced court dates. Those convicted had 20 days to appeal.

Mizan announced on July 7, 2018, that Iran executed by hanging eight men convicted over the 2017 Islamic State attack on parliament and the shrine of Ayatollah Khomeini. The head of Tehran’s Justice Department, Gholamhossein Esmaili, told Iranian state television that authorities conducted the executions days earlier but chose not to immediately announce them. *Mizan* reported, “These eight worked directly ... in martyring and wounding a number of innocent compatriots.” The terrorists were identified as Soleiman Mozafari, Esmail Sufi, Rahman Behrouz, Majed Mortezaei, Sirous Azizi, Ayoub Esmaili, Khosro Ramezani and Osman Behrouz. More than a dozen others were on trial for the attack.

Iraq

2014: On March 20, 2018, *AP* reported that the bodies of 38 Indian construction workers, including Gurcharan Singh, who were kidnapped by ISIS in 2014 were found buried in a mass grave in Jalal Usma near Badush, northwest of Mosul. Most of the workers were from northern India and worked for a local construction company. ISIS had captured 40 Indians; Harjit Masih escaped, sustaining a bullet wound in the thigh. The mass grave held 39 bodies, 38 of which had been identified via DNA.

December 15, 2015: The *Washington Post* reported on April 28, 2018, that Qatar had paid \$275 million in ransom to obtain the release of hostages, including 25 held in Iraq for 16 months since being kidnapped on December 15, 2015. Among them were nine members of the royal family and 16 other Qataris kidnapped by Kata'ib al-Imam Ali during a hunting trip in Muthanna Province in southern Iraq. Another \$150 million in cash was designated for individuals and groups acting as intermediaries, including Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and Kata'ib Hezbollah, an Iraqi paramilitary group. Qatar's ambassador to the United States said that "Qatar did not pay a ransom."

Jordan

December 2016: The Islamic State attacked Karak castle in the south, killing 14 people, including a Canadian tourist. On November 13, 2018, the state security court sentenced 10 defendants to prison, with terms ranging from three years to life. Two defendants received life sentences; four others were given 15-year sentences; four people were sentenced to three years; one defendant was acquitted.

Lebanon

February 14, 2005: On March 7, 2018, the U.N.'s Special Tribunal for Lebanon in The Hague rejected a request for acquittal by Hussein Hassan Oneissi, one of four suspects on trial in absentia in the 2005 assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri and 21 others on February 14, 2005, in a truck bombing in Beirut.

Libya

September 11, 2012: On June 27, 2018, the *Washington Post* reported that U.S. District Judge Christopher R. "Casey" Cooper in the District of Columbia sentenced Ahmed Abu Khattala, 47, to 22 years in prison on charges including conspiracy and providing material support to terrorists. Prosecutors had sought a life sentence; the defense sought 15 years. Abu Khattala was represented by Jeffrey D. Robinson with Federal Defender of the District A.J. Kramer and the law firm Lewis Baach Kaufmann Middlemiss.

2013: On November 22, 2018, *AP* reported that Libyan National Army authorities in eastern Libya took into custody suspects in the 2013 killing of U.S. chemistry teacher Ronnie Smith, who taught at Benghazi's International School. The U.S. State Department earlier said he was killed while jogging, while Libyan security officials said he was shot near the compound where U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans were killed by jihadists in 2012.

Syria

March 12, 2013: *AP* reported on December 12, 2018, that Carabinieri police issued arrest warrants for six ISIS members believed to have been behind the March 12, 2013, ISIS kidnapping in Syria of Italian aid worker Federico Motka and Briton David Haines, who was later killed. Police said the jihadists were "seriously implicated" in the crimes of terrorist association and kidnapping with the aim of terrorism. Three of the suspects were born or raised in the UK and were part of a group known as "the Beatles." Police identified the suspects as British-born Aine Leslie Davis and Alexandra Amon Kotey; El Shafee Elskeikh, born in Sudan and raised in Britain; Mehdi Nemmouche of France and detained in Belgium; Soufiane Alilou, born and detained in Belgium; and Salim Benghalem, born in France and believed to have been killed.

Motka and Haines had worked for the French aid group ACTED at a refugee camp in Atmeh, near Syria's border with Turkey. Haines was beheaded in September 2014. Motka was freed May 27, 2014. Motka had been moved 11 times during his detention and had come into contact with "numerous hostages" from Europe and the West. Police said the hostages had all been subject to a "harsh regime of detention with episodes of unhuman cruelty." Some pundits believed Italy paid a ransom.

June 22, 2015: On October 23, 2018, Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said that Qatar had informed Tokyo that Japanese freelance journalist Jumpei Yasuda, 44, believed to have been kidnapped by al-Qaeda's branch in Syria, known at the time as the Nusra Front (now Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, or Levant Liberation Committee), and last heard from on June 25, 2015, was freed and was in Antakya in southern Turkey. *AP* reported that Rami Abdurrahman, who heads the UK-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, said that the group handed Yasuda over to the Turkistan Islamic Party, which mostly comprises Chinese jihadists based in Syria. Abdurrahman said Yasuda was most recently held in Khirbet el-Joz near the Turkish border by a Syrian commander with the Turkistan Islamic Party, a strong ally of Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, which released him. No ransom was paid. Yasuda was taken hostage in Iraq in 2004 with three other Japanese, but was freed after Islamic clerics negotiated his release. He went to Syria in 2015 to report on his journalist friend Kenji Goto, whom ISIS kidnapped and killed. Several videos of Yasuda were released, including one in July 2018, in which a bearded man believed to be Yasuda said he was in a harsh environment and needed to be rescued immediately. He told *NHK* television on a flight from Antakya to Istanbul, "I'm so happy to be free But I'm a bit worried about what will happen to me or what I should

do from now on.” He said he felt as if he had fallen behind the rest of the world and was uncertain how to catch up. He called his captivity “hell” both physically and mentally. He said he was kept in a tiny cell and tortured. He was prevented from bathing for eight months. “Day after day, I thought ‘Oh I can’t go home again,’ and the thought took over my head and gradually made it difficult for me to control myself.” He believed he was moved several times, but kept in Idlib Province. He told Japanese broadcaster *TBS* that “I was living in endless fear that I may never get out of it or could even be killed.” Yasuda returned to Tokyo on October 25, 2018. His first meal was his mother’s hand-made rice balls. Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga thanked Qatar for helping to obtain Yasuda’s release. In a press conference on November 2, 2018, Yasuda said he made a “silly mistake,” going with two guides he did not know after his original local escort in Syria changed plans and was no longer available. The two guides turned on him, grabbed him, pushed him into a car, took his luggage away and kept him in a house.

July 2017: The *Long War Journal* reported on January 18, 2018, that the Katibat al-Ghuraba, alias Katibat al-Ghuraba al-Turkistan (KGT), which claimed to be comprised of ethnic Uighurs, was a new jihadi group operating in Idlib, Aleppo and Sawran, Hama as of July 2017. It ran *YouTube* videos that included combat footage in Afghanistan, interviews, lectures, a training camp and a school for children. It also ran instructions on operating BMPs and TSS tanks. Propaganda videos included features from Osama bin Laden, Ayman al-Zawahiri, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, Mohammad Atef, Saeed al-Masri, Abdullah Azzam, Abdullah Muhaysini, Anwar al-Aulaqi, al-Qaeda branches including AQAP, al-Shabaab, Afghan Taliban, and Hay’at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), formerly known as al-Nusrah Front. Membership included Syrians, at least one Palestinian, other Arabs, and Central Asians. Remarks by Abu Abdurakhman, the group’s emir, were dubbed in Uighur, suggesting he was not a Uighur.

September 2017: *AP* reported on February 14, 2018, that an unidentified U.S.-Saudi dual national surrendered to the Syrian Democratic Forces and was turned over to the U.S. military in Iraq. He was carrying a thumb drive containing thousands of files, including 10,000+ photos, including pages of military manuals on how to make bombs. Another file contained nearly a dozen Arabic spreadsheets, including one dated November 11, 2016, entitled, “Islamic State Spoils and Booty Bureau.” He had studied electrical engineering in college in New Orleans, Louisiana, frequently gambled and used marijuana. Ten years later, he guarded an ISIS-controlled oil field in Syria. On February 13, 2018,

U.S. District Judge Tanya Chutkan ordered the U.S. government to give 72 hours notice before moving him to another country. The government had argued that he volunteered to fight for ISIS and worked for it for 31 months. His name was found on an ISIS intake forms file recovered in July 2015. He was married, had a 3-year-old daughter, had black hair, brown eyes, was about 5 feet 5 inches tall and weighed about 140 pounds. A colleague told the FBI that the detainee received “a sizable amount of money from the Saudi Arabian government each month” and that his “mother was very wealthy.” He lived briefly during 2005 or 2006 in Covington, Louisiana, where he frequented casinos and strip clubs. He left the United States for Saudi Arabia. Between 2006 and 2014 he wed and lived in Saudi Arabia and Bahrain, working in various family businesses, including a women’s tailoring shop and a construction company. He traveled on business to Indonesia, Singapore, China and Malaysia. In Asia, he tweeted pro-ISIS messages, noting Muhammad “is the messenger of God and those who are with him are harsh against the infidels and merciful among themselves.” He returned with his wife and child on a second visit to New Orleans in late 2014. In early 2015, he flew to Athens, Greece, and on to Gaziantep, Turkey, where he paid a smuggler \$300 to get him into Syria, arriving with \$40,000. He claimed that ISIS kidnapped him three days later and imprisoned him for seven months before he agreed to work for ISIS. He spent two months at an ISIS training camp near Mayadin, Syria, then joined a brigade responsible for guarding the front lines in Deir el-Zour Province. He got fuel for ISIS vehicles, handled brigade expenses and guarded a gate of an oil field. He left the oil field without permission one day and headed to Deir el-Zour, where he was picked up by ISIS military police. He later worked for ISIS monitoring imams and prayer callers and civilians running heavy equipment. ISIS gave him a car to drive to Raqqa, Syria, where ISIS told him about a project to “use a type of machine, similar to a satellite dish, to transmit microwaves that could bring down an airplane.” He refused to work on the project. In late 2016, he rented 200 acres in Hamah, Syria, from ISIS for \$750 and spent \$12,000 on olive and almond trees. He spent another \$4,000 to buy 80 sheep. He spoke with his wife via *WhatsApp* in July 2017. He told his sister via text and through *WhatsApp* that he was leaving ISIS; he was captured three weeks later, saying “he wanted to turn himself in and speak to the Americans.” When he surrendered, he was carrying the thumb drives, \$4,210, a GPS device, hats, clothes, a Quran and a scuba snorkel and mask.

December 31, 2017: *AP*, *Tass* and *RIA-Novosti* reported on January 4, 2018, that Russia’s Defense

Ministry said two Russian soldiers were killed in a mortar attack by a “mobile sabotage group” on the Russian Hemeimeem air base.

Yemen

October 12, 2000: The *Washington Post* reported on February 16, 2018, that military judge Air Force Colonel Vance Spath indefinitely suspended a death-penalty case against accused *USS Cole* October 12, 2000, bombing mastermind Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri in Guantanamo Bay. Spath cited repeated defiance of his authority by defense attorneys. Al-Nashiri’s civilian lawyers, including Richard Kamen, had resigned in the fall of 2017, leaving Lieutenant Alaric Piette as the remaining defense attorney. Spath had held Brigadier General John G. Baker, the chief defense counsel for the commissions, in contempt and ordered him confined to quarters. Earlier in February 2018, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis fired Harvey Rishikof, responsible for overseeing the military court, and official Gary Brown.

The *Washington Post* reported on November 5, 2018, that *USS Cole* victims included David Morales. The victims were seeking to collect the \$314,705,896 awarded in their suit against the Republic of Sudan. The *Republic of Sudan v. Harrison* case went to the Supreme Court, which was to examine whether notices of the lawsuits against Sudan were sent to the wrong address eight years earlier. The notices were addressed to the Sudanese Embassy at 2210 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, D.C., where an employee signed for them. A federal appeals court decreed that was adequate. Sudan argued that federal law in the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act and the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations require papers to be served on the foreign minister, Mohamed Ahmed El Dirdiri, at his official address, which in this case is Khartoum. A different federal appeals court agreed with that interpretation. U.S. Solicitor General Noel Francisco, Saudi Arabia and Libya filed an amicus brief agreeing with Sudan. The victims were represented by Washington lawyer Kannon Shanmugam. *AP* reported on November 7, 2018, that the Supreme Court appeared divided. Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr., asked, “I have to say ... that would be my first thought: Why don’t I deliver it to the embassy? Mailing it to the foreign minister in some country and assuming it’s going to get there in any reasonable time, I think you’re much more likely to reach them through the embassy.” Justice Elena Kagan said, “Everybody understands that embassies are supposed to be the point of contact if you want to do anything with respect to a foreign government.” Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr., asked whether one could merely send a package with a “Return Receipt Requested and it

comes back from the far reaches of the world?” Justice Brett M. Kavanaugh asked whether there was a practical harm to the United States in mailing notices to an embassy. Justice Sonia Sotomayor said the “addressed and dispatched” language implied a sense of urgency, and that “We can’t ignore that it’s not the place where the person (the foreign minister) usually is. And that concept, I think, is the essence of due process.” Justice Stephen G. Breyer said two dozen countries, such as the United States, do not accept legal notice at their embassies. “I could find nothing the other way.” Justices Samuel Alito and Ruth Bader Ginsburg asked whether the mailing at the embassy actually give Sudan notice of the suit.

North America

Canada

December 2014: *AP* reported on November 2, 2018, that in December 2014, Hydro-Quebec, Canada’s largest electric power utility, was hit with a crippling blackout at the start of winter. More than 188,000 customers lost power, including Montreal’s McGill University Health Center. Cost to the utility was estimated at \$22 million. A Quebec court was told that the power failure resulted from an act of sabotage by Normand Dubé, 56, a pilot and inventor with a grudge against the utility, who used a small aircraft to hobble two massive power lines. Dubé was found guilty of three charges of criminal mischief in September 2018. He returned to court in St. Jerome, Quebec, in November 2018 for a sentencing hearing. Prosecutors argued the self-described “pilot to the stars,” whose clients included several Quebec entertainers, should spend a decade in prison. The method he used to disable the power lines was blacked out from the 24-page judgment on national security grounds. The judgment indicated that unidentified materials were dropped on the lines from the plane at three locations on the same day, starting short circuits that cascaded through the network. Sentencing was scheduled for December 2018.

The high-school-educated Dubé had designed a single-engine aircraft called the Aerocruiser, built a successful general aviation business, invented a solar panel system and a machine to eliminate insects infesting commercial greenhouses that grow tomatoes.

July 2015: On May 17, 2018, Judge Tracey Lord found Guido Amsel of Winnipeg, Manitoba, guilty of attempting to murder his former wife and two lawyers by sending them letter bombs in July 2015. Attorney Maria Mitousis lost her right hand when one of the bombs went off in her office. She had represented Amsel’s ex-wife, Iris, in a financial dispute. DNA evidence found at the crime scenes estab-

lished that Amsel had sent the bombs. Judge Lord also believed that Amsel planted a bomb that exploded outside Iris Amsel's home in 2013.

January 29, 2017: On March 26, 2018, French-Canadian university student Alexandre Bissonnette, 28, pleaded not guilty to killing six men: Mamadou Tanou Barry, 42; Abdelkrim Hassane, 41; Khaled Belkacemi, 60; Aboubaker Thabti, 44; Azzeddine Soufiane, 57; and Ibrahima Barry, 39, at the Islamic Cultural Centre of Quebec City during evening prayers on January 29, 2017. He faced six charges of first-degree murder and six of attempted murder. He often took extreme nationalist positions at Laval University and on social media. He supported French far-right leader Marine Le Pen and U.S. President Donald Trump. Bissonnette pleaded guilty the afternoon of March 26, 2018, asking for forgiveness. "Every minute of my existence I bitterly regret what I did, the lives I have destroyed, the pain and suffering I have caused to so many people, without forgetting the members of my own family. I am ashamed of what I did."

The *Washington Post* and *Montreal Gazette* reported on April 18, 2018, that Alexandre Bissonnette, who attacked a mosque in a Quebec City suburb, killing six and wounding 19, spent hours in front of his computer screen reading about mass shooters and scouring the *Twitter* accounts of right-wing commentators, alt-right figures, conspiracy theorists and President Trump. He searched for President Trump 819 times across *Twitter*, *Google*, *YouTube* and *Facebook*, searching Trump's tweets 417 times. Other favorite searches were of the *Twitter* accounts of Tucker Carlson and Laura Ingraham, *Fox News* personalities; David Duke, the former leader of the Ku Klux Klan; Alex Jones of *Infowars*; conspiracy theorist Mike Cernovich; white nationalist Richard Spencer; and senior White House adviser Kellyanne Conway. He read the *Twitter* account of Ben Shapiro, editor in chief of the conservative news site the *Daily Wire*, 93 times in the month before the shooting. He told a social worker that he idolized mass shooters and wished that his own attack had been more deadly. *CDTVNews.ca* reported that he searched regarding mass killers like Dylann Roof, the white supremacist who killed nine churchgoers at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina, and Marc Lépine, a misogynist who murdered 14 women at Montreal's Polytechnique engineering school in 1989.

United States

February 26, 1993: Twenty-five years later, World Trade Center bombing suspect Abdul Rahman Yasin remained at large and was on the FBI's list of most wanted terrorists.

Those killed included visitor John DiGiovanni and five people who worked at the center: Robert Kirkpatrick, Stephen Knapp, William Macko, Wilfredo Mercado and pregnant Monica Rodriguez Smith.

September 11, 2001: Coalition spokesman U.S. Col. Ryan Dillon announced on April 20, 2018, that the Syrian Democratic Forces captured Syrian-born German ISIS operative Mohammed Haydar Zammar in northeast Syria roughly four weeks earlier. He was previously tied to a 9/11-linked jihadist cell in Hamburg that included three of the 9/11 suicide pilots.

Deutsche Welle and AP reported on October 15, 2018, that Germany deported convicted 9/11 accomplice Mounir el-Motassadeq to Morocco. He had spent almost 15 years in Hamburg's high-security Fuhlsbüttel prison for complicity in 3,000 counts of murder in the September 11, 2001, attacks and for membership of a terrorist organization. His sentence was set to expire in November 2018. He received credit for time served after his November 2001 arrest. He handled bank transfers for members of the Hamburg al-Qaeda cell and helped cover up their whereabouts. He also signed hijack leader Mohammed Atta's will. German authorities banned him from returning to Germany until April 2064, when he would be 90 years old.

November 2, 2009: On May 6, 2018, the jury selection began for the Phoenix trial of neo-Nazi Travis Ricci, 36, accused of firing a shotgun twice and killing Kelly An Jaeger, 39, the white girlfriend of Jeffery Wellmaker, a black man who was the intended target. Opening statements were scheduled for June 6, 2018. Ricci claimed his great-grandfather was a member of the World War II French Resistance killed by the Nazis. Ricci was a member of the Vinlanders Social Club neo-Nazi group. Prosecutors called the attack a hate crime, which allows them to add eleven years in prison above the maximum penalty. Ricci was charged with attempted murder, drive-by shooting, aggravated assault, and assisting a criminal gang. He pleaded not guilty. Ricci's defense team included Jennifer Willmott and Bruce Blumberg. Getaway driver Aaron Levi Schmidt, 36, pleaded guilty to murder and was serving eleven years for assisting a criminal gang.

July 4, 2015: On July 13, 2015, CNN reported that the U.S. Attorney's Office in Massachusetts announced the July 4 arrest of Alexander Ciccolo, alias Ali al-Amriki, 23, on charges of felony possession of firearms and plotting to conduct terrorism for the Islamic State. His father, Robert, a Boston police captain, turned him in to authorities after he made alarming comments. The father and son had minimal contact since Alexander turned 7. Court documents indicated that Alexander had a long history

of mental illness and had become obsessed with Islam in the past 18 months. Prosecutor Carmen M. Ortiz said that on July 4, Alexander accepted firearms—including a Colt AR-15 .223-caliber rifle, a SigArms Model SG550-1, 556 caliber rifle, a Glock 17-9mm pistol and a Glock 20-10 mm pistol—that he had ordered from a person who was cooperating with members of the Western Massachusetts Joint Terrorism Task Force. The team had recorded conversations about Ciccolo's plans to commit an act of terrorism, including killing students live online. He allegedly said he was inspired by ISIS and wanted to set off homemade bombs such as pressure cookers filled with black powder, ball bearings and glass where many people gather, including college cafeterias. Agents watched Ciccolo purchase a pressure cooker. Investigators found several partially constructed Molotov cocktails in Ciccolo's apartment. A detention hearing was set for July 14 in U.S. District Court in Springfield, Massachusetts.

NPR reported on May 16, 2018, that Ciccolo planned to plead guilty on May 21, 2018.

June 12, 2016: CNN reported on March 26, 2018, that attorneys for Noor Salman, 31, wife of Pulse gunman Omar Mateen, called for a dismissal of charges or a mistrial because Mateen's father, Sed-dique Mateen, was a confidential FBI source from 2005 through June 2016 and was currently under a criminal investigation for money transfers to Turkey and Afghanistan after documents were found in his home on June 12, 2016, the day of the Pulse attack in Orlando, Florida. The money transfers were made between March 16, 2016, and June 5, 2016. The attorneys said that the prosecution's failure to disclose this information earlier violated due process. She was charged with providing material support to a foreign terrorist organization and obstruction of justice. The *Washington Post* reported on March 30, 2018, that a jury found Salman not guilty. She was represented by attorney Linda Moreno. The prosecution had claimed that the couple had scouted potential targets together, including Disney World's shopping and entertainment complex. The defense said she was a low IQ woman who signed a false confession because she was tired and feared losing her son, 5.

September 17, 2016: CNN reported on February 13, 2018, that U.S. District Judge Richard Berman sentenced Ahmad Khan Rahimi, variant Rahami, 30, to multiple life sentences in prison on eight federal charges in connection with the September 17, 2016, bombing that injured 31 in New York City's Chelsea neighborhood. Judge Berman ordered Rahimi to pay \$563,000 to victims. Prosecutors said Rahimi attempted to radicalize other Federal Bureau of Prisons inmates while awaiting sentencing.

Charges on which he was convicted in 2017 included use and attempted use of a weapon of mass destruction, bombing a public place, destroying property by means of fire or explosives, and using a destructive device in furtherance of a crime of violence—via the use and attempted use of weapons of mass destruction. He was represented by sentencing attorney Xavier Donaldson. Rahimi faced separate charges in other jurisdictions in connection with a Seaside Park bomb, a backpack containing improvised explosive devices found on September 18, 2016, at a transit station in Elizabeth, New Jersey, and a shootout with police before he was taken into custody.

October 2016: CNN reported on October 30, 2018, reported that in October 2016, Patrick Eugene Stein and two other men plotted to kill Somali refugees the day after the presidential election by blowing up a Garden City, Kansas, apartment complex that contained a mosque. Prosecutors said the trio called Muslims cockroaches and “described in the most extreme and violent terms what they planned to do to them.” On April 18, 2018, a federal jury in Kansas convicted right-wing extremists Patrick Stein, 49, Curtis Allen, 50, and Gavin Wright, 50, of conspiring to use a weapon of mass destruction and conspiring to violate the civil housing rights of others by plotting to massacre Muslim refugees by setting off four car bombs at an apartment building housing Somali refugees and a mosque in Garden City, Kansas, during Friday prayers on the day after the 2016 presidential election. They faced life in prison. Two of them posted pro-Trump messages on social media, invoking anti-Islam rhetoric expressed by Trump and his allies during the 2016 election. In April 2016, Stein talked about killing Muslims—whom he called “cockroaches”—with weapons dipped in pig's blood. On October 30, 2018, Stein's attorney requested a more lenient sentence, saying that the court should consider the “backdrop” environment—then-candidate Donald Trump's polarizing rhetoric. Defense attorney Jim Pratt argued in a sentencing memo to the U.S. Court in Kansas, “The court cannot ignore the circumstances of one of the most rhetorically mold-breaking, violent, awful, hateful and contentious presidential elections in modern history, driven in large measure by the rhetorical China shop bull who is now our president.” The attorney later said, “It wasn't just the rhetoric of Trump, who ahead of the election called for a ban against all Muslims entering the U.S., but it was the rhetoric of everybody that put fear into the system and made people believe that if Trump won, on the first day he'd take office, the world was going to implode. Or if he won, martial law was going to be declared and Hillary (Clinton) was going to be put into office.... A person normally at

a 3 on a scale of political talk might have found themselves at a 7 during the election. A person, like Patrick, who would often be at a 7 during a normal day, might 'go to 11.' Stein, 49, of Kansas; Curtis Allen, 50, of Kansas; and Gavin Wright, 49, of Oklahoma, were convicted on one count of conspiracy to use a weapon of mass destruction and one count of conspiracy to violate the housing rights of their intended victims.

January 6, 2017: On August 17, 2018, U.S. District Judge Beth Bloom accepted a plea deal from Esteban Santiago, 28, in which he admitted killing five people and wounding six in a shooting at Fort Lauderdale Airport if prosecutors would not pursue a death penalty. He had pleaded guilty in May 2018 to 11 charges of causing death and violence at an international airport. The judge sentenced him to five consecutive life prison terms for the deaths and 120 years for wounding six people. He had served in the National Guard in Iraq. Prosecutor Rick Del Toro said Santiago's mental illness may have worsened because he regularly took hallucinogens, including LSD and mushrooms.

February 22, 2017: Adam Purinton, 51, a former air traffic controller, yelled at two Indian Hindu men to "get out of my country," then fired at them in a crowded bar in Olathe, Kansas, killing Srinivas Kuchibhotla, 32, and wounding the other, Alok Madasani, 32, as well as a third man, Ian Grillot, who tried to help the victims. Hours later, he told a bartender at Austins Bar and Grill in a suburb that he needed a hidey-hole since he had killed two Middle Easterners. He said the same thing to another bartender at an Applebee's in Clinton, Missouri. Kuchibhotla came to the U.S. in 2005 to earn an MA at the University of Texas at El Paso, and worked in Iowa for six years. He worked for Garmin in Kansas City. The shooter was jailed on murder and attempted murder charges. *CNN* reported on May 5, 2018, that Adam Purinton, 52, who had pleaded guilty to one count of premeditated first-degree murder in Kuchibhotla's death and two counts of attempted premeditated first-degree murder, was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for 50 years for one first-degree murder charge, and an additional 165 months each for the other two attempted first-degree murder charges. He faced additional federal hate crime charges.

March 2017: On November 22, 2018, *AP* and *AFP* reported that Tel Aviv district court sentenced a man, 20, convicted of making more than 2,000 threats against U.S. Jewish institutions, airlines, police stations and a professional basketball team's plane to ten years in prison. The dual citizen hacker, from the southern Israeli city of Ashkelon, committed the crimes while he was still a minor. He was

convicted after he turned 18 for extortion, making threats and false reports, conspiracy to commit a crime, and money laundering. On the dark net he traded in drugs, bombmaking guides and child pornography. He demanded Bitcoin for his services, earning 184 Bitcoin (worth \$800,000 as of November 23, 2018). The *New York Times* quoted the judge as saying that the price list included \$40 for a phone threat to a private home; \$80 for threatening a school; and \$500 for warning of a bomb on a plane. He refused to reveal the codes to his Bitcoin wallet. He suffered from autism and was home-schooled. Neighbors said his father was an Israeli-born engineer. U.S. authorities identified him as Michael Ron David Kadar and said he was indicted in the U.S. for hate crimes. The court said he called some 2,000 institutions between April 2015 and March 2017, including schools, malls, police stations, hospitals and Jewish institutions. The *New York Times* reported on November 23, 2018 that he had threatened the Israeli Embassy in Washington, and Delaware State Senator Ernesto Lopez's daughter. He had made threats in the U.S., Israel, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, UK, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, New Zealand, Norway and Sweden between April 2015 and March 2017.

April 2017: *Gatehouse Media Florida* and the *Florida Times-Union* reported on March 7, 2018, that police arrested Jonathan Thomas Beese, then 19, after a traffic stop in April 2017. He was charged with burglary of a conveyance while armed, grand theft, possession of burglary tools, conspiracy to commit burglary of a conveyance while armed, conspiracy to commit grand theft and solicitation to commit burglary of a conveyance while armed. The charges also applied to his girlfriend, Kristin Michaela Sparks, 20, regarding stealing an AK-47-style rifle, an SKS-style sporter rifle and an M1 Garand rifle from her father's property. The FBI later said that the Ocala man was the target of a terrorism probe for two years. He had scouted the Ocala National Bank Building at 108 N. Magnolia Avenue as a potential sniper's nest, had practiced long-range shooting, and searched online for 1,000-round packages of ammunition before he was arrested. Assistant State Attorney Tim McCourt said Beese's interest in Islam, ISIS, and terrorist attacks since 2015 would establish motive. Defense attorney Andrew Pozzuto said such evidence would be prejudicial.

May 19, 2017: On January 9, 2018, U.S. District Judge Susan Bucklew sentenced neo-Nazi Brandon Russell, a dual Bahamas-U.S. citizen, to five years in prison. He pleaded guilty in September 2017 to possession of an unregistered destructive device and improper storage of explosives. He was arrested on May 19, 2017, when Tampa police found two dead men in an apartment, where Russell sat out-

side in fatigues. Roommate Devon Arthurs was charged with shooting and killing Andrew Oneschuk and Jeremy Himmelman. Russell and Arthurs had co-founded Atomwaffen Division. He was represented by attorney Ian Goldstein.

August 12, 2017: *AP* reported on December 7, 2018, that self-professed neo-Nazi James Alex Fields, Jr., 21, of Maumee, Ohio, was convicted in Charlottesville Circuit Court of first-degree murder in a car-ramming that killed Heather D. Heyer, 32, and injured 35 during a protest of the white supremacist “Unite the Right” rally in Charlottesville, Virginia on August 12, 2017. The jury of seven women and five men needed only seven hours to determine that Fields acted with premeditation when he backed up his two-door 2010 Dodge Challenger and then floored it down a narrow downtown street crowded with counterprotesters, slamming into them and another car. The jury also convicted him of eight other charges, including aggravated malicious wounding and hit and run. Fields was represented by defense attorneys Denise Lunsford and John Hill. The *Washington Post* reported on December 11 that the jury recommended a sentence of life for first-degree murder; 70 years for each of five counts of aggravated malicious wounding; 20 years for each of three counts of malicious wounding; and nine years for leaving the scene of a fatal crash. That tallied to life plus 419 years and \$480,000 in fines. Judge Richard E. Moore was to formally sentence Fields on March 29, 2019. He could impose a lesser punishment than the jurors called for but is not permitted to increase the sentences. Fields faced a separate federal trial for hate crimes related to the incident, including one offense that carries a possible death sentence.

October 22, 2017: *AP* and the *Washington Post* reported on January 5, 2018, that the FBI announced that Taylor M. Wilson, 26, of St. Charles, Missouri, who stopped an Amtrak train on October 22, 2017, had ties to white supremacists. He expressed a desire to kill black people. He was charged with a terrorist attack and other violence against a railroad carrier or other mass-transportation system. His cousin and roommate said Wilson had joined a neo-Nazi group he found while researching white-supremacist groups online. Court filings said Wilson had mental health issues and that he was “charged with attempting to and threatening to wreck an Amtrak train” traveling from California to Missouri with other passengers aboard. The train stopped in southern rural Nebraska after the armed Wilson “breached a secure area of the train and triggered an emergency stop control panel, applying the emergency brakes.” The assistant passenger conductor found Wilson sitting in the engineer’s seat of the follow engine and “playing with the controls.”

A sheriff’s deputy from Furnas County, Nebraska found a loaded .38-caliber revolver tucked into his waistband. Wilson also had a loaded speed-loader; his backpack contained three more speed-loaders, a box of ammunition, a hammer, a knife and scissors. Authorities found hundreds of rounds of ammunition, a tactical vest, white-supremacy documents and a handmade shield hidden in Wilson’s Missouri home and more than a dozen guns belonging to him. A search of his phone found documents and PDF files explaining how to kill people and evidence showing “the placement of a white supremacist banner” over a highway bearing a message related to a fatal police shooting.

December 4, 2017: On December 4, 2017, local television news stations and the *Florida Times-Union* reported that Jacksonville authorities prevented a planned mass shooting against the northeast Florida Islamic Center at 2333 St. Johns Bluff Road South when they arrested Filipino immigrant Bernandino Gawala Bolatete, 69. He was charged with knowingly receiving and possessing a silencer not registered to him in the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record. He had obtained the rifle silencer on December 1 from an undercover officer in the parking lot of Academy Sports and Outdoors at 11901 Atlantic Boulevard in Jacksonville. Sheriffs learned of the plan in late October. They recorded conversations with him on November 10, 14, 20 and 24, providing them to the FBI as evidence. He told the undercover officer that he lost a kidney after being accidentally shot in the back in the Philippines. His other kidney functioned at less than 30 percent and he needed to undergo dialysis. Regarding his plan, he told the officer “If I ever decide to do that, I’m not thinking of getting caught. I’ll die there in that area. They’ll be some sort of suicide thing ... suicide by police?” The undercover officer was asked if he could help obtain a silencer on November 27. The buyer asked that there be no paperwork. He faced ten years in federal prison. Police searched his home in the 13200 block of Eucalyptus Drive off Atlantic Boulevard. He had claimed that he had five guns, including an AR-15 that could be converted to an AR-47. He planned to attack during Friday prayers.

On May 11, 2018, Bolatete was found guilty of possessing an unregistered firearm silencer. Sentencing was scheduled for July 25, 2018.

December 11, 2017: *Fox News* reported on January 12, 2018, that Bangladeshi immigrant Akayed Ullah pleaded “at this moment, not guilty” to the federal charges against him for attempting to bomb the New York City subway system. He was indicted on January 10 on six counts, including providing material support to a terrorist organization and using a weapon of mass destruction.

December 22, 2017: A grand jury formally indicted Everitt Aaron Jameson, 26, on January 5, 2018, on one count each of attempting to provide material support to a foreign terrorist organization, and distribution of information relating to destructive devices. He was represented by federally appointed public defender Charles Lee, who planned to “investigate the possibility of an entrapment defense, as well as the government’s inability to prove beyond a reasonable doubt any attempted criminal act given Mr. Jameson told the FBI undercover employee ‘I also don’t think I can do this after all. I’ve reconsidered.’” The indictment said Jameson told undercover agents he wanted to carry out an ISIS-inspired suicide bombing at San Francisco’s Pier 39 on Christmas Day.

December 30, 2017: *AP* and the Middle East Media Research Institute reported on January 23,

2018 that on December 30, 2017, a man wearing an ISIS scarf posted on *Telegram* a photo of an ISIS sympathizer posing in front of the New York Metropolitan Museum and Central Park in wintertime with the caption, “We are in your home.” Similar posts in recent weeks showed ISIS operatives casing landmarks in Western cities, including Paris’s Eiffel Tower, the Sydney Harbor Bridge in Australia and the Los Angeles skyline, and urging followers to carry out attacks. A narrator in a video said, “It is time to harvest the heads.” One commentator suggested, “Make [explosive] devices and plant them in their celebrations ... or set their homes and forests on fire, or run over the largest number of unbelievers with your vehicle, or stab them repeatedly with a knife.”

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INDEX TO COUNTRIES AND PLACES

- Afghanistan 2, 6, 8, 9, 88–109, 162
 Africa 4, 7, 10–26, 149–151; *see also* specific countries
 Albania 48
 Algeria 109, 162
 Argentina 80, 161
 Armenia 27
 Asia 5, 27–45, 151–153; *see also* specific countries
 Australia 6, 9, 46–47, 153–154
 Austria 48
 Azerbaijan 6, 27

 Bahrain 109, 162–163
 Bangladesh 27, 151
 Belgium 6, 9, 48–50, 154–155
 Bolivia 80
 Bosnia-Herzegovina 50
 Brazil 6, 80–81
 Bulgaria 9, 155
 Burkina Faso 10–11
 Burma *see* Myanmar
 Burundi 11

 Cambodia 27
 Cameroon 5, 11–12
 Canada 6, 9, 132–133, 166–167
 Central African Republic 12–13
 Chile 81
 China 6, 27–28
 Colombia 81–82
 Congo 5, 13–14, 149
 Cyprus 50
 Czech Republic 50

 Denmark 50–51

 Ecuador 83
 Egypt 2, 5, 109–113, 163
 El Salvador 161

 Ethiopia 4, 5, 14
 Europe 5, 6, 7, 9, 48–79, 154–161; *see also* specific countries

 Finland 155
 France 5, 6, 9, 51–55, 155–156

 Gaza Strip 113–115
 Georgia 55
 Germany 6, 55–63, 156–157
 Greece 63–65, 157
 Guantanamo Bay 83–84
 Guatemala 84

 Honduras 161

 India 5, 28–31
 Indonesia 5, 6, 31–34, 151
 Internet 5, 6, 8
 Iran 6, 7, 115–117, 163
 Iraq 2, 5, 6, 8, 9, 117–119, 163–164
 Ireland 6, 65
 Israel 5, 6, 119–120
 Italy 65–66, 157

 Japan 2, 34, 151–152
 Jordan 120–121, 164

 Kenya 5, 14–15, 149
 Kosovo 66

 Latin America/South America 5, 7, 80–85, 161; *see also* specific countries
 Lebanon 121, 164
 Libya 2, 7, 121–123, 164

 Macedonia 157
 Malaysia 34–35, 152
 Mali 16–17, 149
 Malta 157–158
 Mexico 133

 Middle East 2, 5, 7, 86–131, 162–166; *see also* specific countries
 Moldova 66–67
 Montenegro 67
 Morocco 123–124
 Mozambique 5, 17–18, 150
 Myanmar 35, 152

 Netherlands 6, 9, 67–68, 158
 New Zealand 47, 154
 Niger 18, 150
 Nigeria 18–21
 North America 9, 132–148, 166–171; *see also* specific countries
 Northern Ireland 68
 Norway 68, 158

 Pakistan 35–42, 152
 Paraguay 161–162
 Peru 2, 84
 Philippines 5, 42–44, 152–153
 Poland 68–69

 Red Sea 124
 Romania 9, 69
 Russia 69–70
 Rwanda 21

 Saudi Arabia 124
 Senegal 21
 Slovakia 158
 Slovenia 71
 Somalia 5, 21–25
 South Africa 6, 25
 South Sudan 25–26
 Spain 71, 158
 Sri Lanka 44
 Sweden 71–72, 158–159
 Syria 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 124–128, 164–166

Tajikistan 6, 44

Tanzania 5, 26

Thailand 44–45, 153

Tunisia 128

Turkey 72–74, 159–160

Ukraine 74–75, 160

United Arab Emirates 128

United Kingdom 5, 9, 75–79,
160–161United States 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 133–
147, 167–171

Uruguay 84

Venezuela 5, 84–85

Vietnam 45

West Bank 128–130

West Germany *see* Germany

Yemen 2, 3, 130–131, 166

Zimbabwe 4, 26

INDEX OF TERRORIST AND OTHER GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Abu Sayyaf 35, 39–40, 42, 135, 139, 152–153
 Afghan Taliban 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 17, 36, 39, 40, 41, 56, 57–58, 76, 88, 89, 90–91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102–104, 105, 106, 107, 108–109, 134, 135, 141, 162, 165
 Ahrar al-Sham 56
 Allied Democratic Forces, ADF 5, 13, 14
 Amba Boys 11–12
 Ambazonia Restoration Forces 11
 Anglophone separatists 11–12
 animal rights activists 158
 Ansar Beit al-Maqdis, Ansar Jerusalem, Champions of Jerusalem, Sinai Province of the Islamic State, Wialiyat Sinai 3, 122
 Ansar al-Dine, Ansar Dine, AAD 17
 Ansar al-Furqan 116–117
 Ansarul Islam 16
 anti-Balaka militia 12, 13
 Arab separatists 115–116
 Arab Struggle Movement for the Liberation of Ahwaz, ASMLA 50
 Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army, ARSA 35, 152
 Argentine anarchists 80
 Armed Civilians Criminal Group 34
 Atomwaffen Division 169–170
 Aum Shinrikyo, AUM 2, 6, 151–152
 Bahraini Hizballah 109
 Baluch nationalists/separatists 37
 Baluchistan Liberation Army, BLA 41
 Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters, BIFF 40, 42–43
 Basque Fatherland and Liberty, Basque Homeland and Freedom, Basque Nation and Liberty, Euskadi Ta Askatasuna, ETA 71
 Basque separatists 158
 Benghazi Defense Brigades 122
 Black Liberation Army, BLA 137–138
 Boko Haram, Western Education is Forbidden, BH, Jamaatu Ahlis Sunna Lidda Awati Wal-Jihad, Islamic State West Africa Province 3, 4–5, 11, 18, 19–20, 21, 56, 150
 Chinese Martyrs' Brigade 152
 Combat 18 (a neo-Nazi criminal organization in Greece) 64
 Communist Party of India-Maoist 4, 28
 Communist Party of the Philippines/New People's Army, CPP/NPA 44
 Conspiracy Cells of Fire 50, 64
 Darul Islam 33
 Daulah Islamiyah 44
 Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda, FDLR, Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda 21
 East Turkestan Islamic Movement, ETIM, East Turkistan Islamic Party, Turkistan Islamic Party 90
 Family MCA, Family Muslim Cyber Army 32
 Fatah 113
 Free Syrian Army 64
 Freital Group 56, 57
 Ginbot 7 14
 Greek anarchists 50, 63–64, 157
 Group for the Support of Islam and Muslims, Jama'at Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimin, Jamaat Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimin, JNIM 7, 10, 14, 16–17, 149, 150
 Guardians of Religion 7
 Gul Bahadur 38–39
 Hamas/Izz-al-Din al-Qassam Brigades, Izzedine al-Qassam Brigades 6, 34, 86, 113, 114–115, 119–120, 121, 128, 129–130, 134–135, 146
 Haqqani Network 4, 36, 41, 89, 90, 95, 102, 134
 Hasm (Decisiveness) 111, 112, 134–135
 Hizballah 53, 81, 121, 138, 146, 155
 Hizbul Ahrar 37
 Hizbul Mujahideen 30, 31
 Houthis rebels 4, 124, 128, 130, 131
 Individualists Who Lean Toward the Wild, Individualistas Tendiendo a lo Salvaje, ITS,

- Islamic Jihad; al-Quds Brigades 34, 113, 114–115, 120
- Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, IMU 3, 93
- Islamic Renaissance Party of Tajikistan 44
- Islamic State, aka al-Dawla al-Islamiya fi al-Iraq wa al-Sham, Daesh, Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), Islamic State of Iraq and Sham (ISIS), Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 20, 21, 24, 32, 33, 34–35, 37, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 46–47, 48–49, 50, 51–52, 53, 54–57, 58–59, 60, 61, 62–63, 64, 65–66, 67–70, 71, 72–73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 81–82, 87, 89–90, 111, 112, 115–116, 117–119, 120–121, 122, 123–125, 126, 127–128, 133, 134, 135, 136, 138, 139, 142, 146–147, 150, 151, 153, 154, 155–156, 157, 158–160, 163, 164, 165, 167–168, 169, 171; Egypt 5, 86, 109, 110–111, 112, 163; in the Greater Sahara 3, 16, 17, 150; Indonesia affiliate 32–33; Khorasan Province, Wilayat Khorasan branch of the Islamic State, Islamic State in Afghanistan, ISIS-K 3, 4, 5, 88, 90, 92, 93, 94–96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 106–107, 108, 109, 116; Libya 121, 122–123; Pakistan affiliate 38, 39; West Africa Province, ISWAP 19–20, 21; Yemen 4, 130, 131
- Jabhat Fatah al-Sham, formerly known as the Nusra Front, Jabhat al-Nusra, Hayat Tahrir al-Sham 56, 73, 124–125, 127, 134, 164–165
- Jaish al-Adl, Army of Justice 116
- Jaish-e-Mohammed, JEM 28
- Jaish al-Naser 125
- Jamaat-ul-Ahrar, Jamaatul Ahrar, Jamaat-ul-Ahr, a Pakistani Taliban faction 37, 38
- Jemaah Islamiyah 139
- Jemmah Anshorut Daulah 32–34, 151
- Junad al-Sham 55
- Jund al-Khilafa, Soldiers of the Caliphate 128
- Kachin Independence Army 35
- Kamwina Nsapu militia 149
- Kashmiri rebels 4, 5, 28, 29, 30, 31
- Katibat al-Ghuraba, Katibat al-Ghuraba al-Turkistan, KGT 165
- Katibat Macina 17
- Khmer National Liberation Front 27
- Krypteia 64
- Ku Klux Klan 78, 167
- Kurdish rebels 73, 116, 127
- Kurdistan Workers Party, PKK 50, 54, 55, 73, 74, 119
- Lashkar-e-Jhangvi al-Almi 36
- Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, LJ 4, 38, 39
- Lashkar e-Taiba, Lashkar e-Taiba, Lashkar-e-Tayyiba, LeT 28, 29, 37, 135
- Legend MCA, Legend Muslim Cyber Army 32
- Levant Conquest Front, Levant Liberation Committee, Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham, Jaish al-Fateh (formerly known as the Nusra Front) 73, 125, 164–165
- Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, LTTE 60–61
- Liwa al-Thawra 134–135
- Lord's Resistance Army, LRA 12–13
- Mai Mai militia 13, 14
- Maoist Naxalite rebels 4, 5, 28, 29, 31
- Maoist rebels 28, 29, 30
- Mapuche Indians 81
- Maraboutines, al-Mourabitoune, The Sentinels, al-Murabitoon 17, 122
- MCA News Legend, Muslim Cyber Army News Legend 32
- Milli Muslim League 37
- Moro National Liberation Front 152–153
- Movement of Democratic Forces of Casamance 21
- Mujahedeen-e-Khalq, MeK, the People's Mujahedin 49
- al-Mujahidin Brigades, AMB 146
- Muslim Brotherhood 110, 111, 112, 131, 163
- Muslim Cyber Army 32
- Muslim Sniper 32
- National Action 75, 76, 78
- National Imperial Guerrilla Army 154
- National Liberation Army, ELN 5, 81, 82, 83, 85
- National Liberation Army of West Papua, NLA 32
- National Socialist Council of Na-
- galand—Khaplang faction 29
- National Socialist Underground, NSU 58, 59–60
- Negara Islam Indonesia 33
- neo-Nazis 5, 65, 144–146, 147, 167, 169–170
- Al-Nusrah Front, Jabhat al-Nusrah, ANF 66
- Nusrat al-Islam wal Muslimeen 149
- October First Anti-fascist Resistance Group, GRAPO 71
- Ogaden National Liberation Front 14
- Oliver Sinisterra Front 82, 83
- Operational Action Forces 53
- Oromo Liberation Front 14
- Owais al-Qorani Brigade 58
- Pakistani Taliban, Tehrik-e Taliban Pakistan, TTP 4, 5, 35–37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 91–92, 94, 98, 99
- Palestinian Islamic Jihad, PIJ 114
- Paraguayan People's Army, EPP 161–162
- Party of Free Life of Kurdistan 115
- Patriotic Arab Democratic Movement in Ahwaz 115–116
- Popular Resistance Committees 120
- Al-Qaeda, AQ, Al-Qaeda Senior Leadership, AQSL, core Al-Qaeda 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 14, 17, 41, 48, 56, 60, 66, 73, 83–84, 86, 87–88, 107, 116, 121, 122, 123, 134, 136, 137, 138–139, 141, 146, 150, 162, 164–165, 167; in Iraq, the Islamic State in Iraq, AQI 58–59; in Syria, Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham, HTS 7, 127, 165; in the Arabian Peninsula, AQAP 3, 7, 86–87, 88, 130, 131, 141, 165; in the Indian Subcontinent, AQIS 3, 7, 94; in the Islamic Maghreb, AQIM 3, 7, 16, 121, 149
- Los Rastrojos 82
- Rawti Shax 68
- Revolution Chemnitz 61–62
- Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC 4, 5, 81, 82, 83,
- Revolutionary Organization 17
- November, 17N, N-17 63, 64

-
- Revolutionary People's Liberation Party/Front, Devrimci Halk Kurtulus Cephesi, DHKP/C 63
 right-wing death squads 161
 Al-Shabaab, Harakat al-Shabaab al-Mujahideen 3, 5, 7, 14, 15, 17–18, 21–22, 23–25, 56, 58, 135, 150–151, 165
 Shining Path, Sendero Luminoso, SL 84
 Special Force MCA, Special Force Muslim Cyber Army 32
 Ta'ang National Liberation Army, TNLA 35
 TripleKMafia 78
 Turkish Communist Party/Kivilcim 73
 Turkish Marxists 159
 Turkistan Islamic Party 164–165
 Turkistan Islamic Party Uamsho, Association for Islamic Mobilization and Propagation, Awakening 7
 Uighur separatists 90
 Ulfa (Independent) separatists 29
 United Liberation Front of Assam (Independent) 30
 United MCA, United Muslim Cyber Army 32
 Unity and Peace in the Central African Republic, UPC (an offshoot of the mostly Muslim Seleka coalition) 13
 Vinlanders Social Club neo-Nazi group 167
 Abu al-Walid al-Sahrawi 18
 West Papua Liberation Army 34
 White Jihad 76
 white nationalists 167
 white supremacists 136, 144–146, 167, 170
 Women's Protection Units 125